

'Phone-tapping' uncovered in Greece

ATHENS (AP) — The government Tuesday displayed equipment with which it suspects the former Socialist administration tapped telephones belonging to Greek military leaders and political personalities. Greek Telecommunications Organisation (OTE) head Anastasios Mili, in the presence of a district attorney, showed journalists a special receiver used for wiretapping. The device was discovered in an air duct of a room at the OTE technical centre in central Athens. "This matter will find its way to the criminal courts... independent of any political responsibilities," Justice Minister Fotis Kouvvelis told journalists. District Attorney Eranios Zeglis said near the wiretapping equipment a file had been discovered with the untitled phone numbers of political personalities, including former President Constantine Karamanlis and Greek Communist Party leader Harilaos Trikoupi, military leaders and newspapers. A government spokesman said the conservative New Democracy Party and supported by the communist-led coalition of the Left and Progress was formed July 2 and has vowed to perform a cleanup of scandals.

Jordan Times

An independent Arabic daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

Moscow withdraws bombers

EAST BERLIN (R) — The Soviet Union has withdrawn 30 long-range bombers from East Germany and plans to take out another squadron soon, the official East German news agency ADN said Tuesday. In a report from Moscow the agency said the SU-24 strike aircraft, codenamed Fencer by the Western alliance, would be replaced by MiG-27 air defence planes which have a shorter range and smaller bomb capacity. ADN quoted Major-General Nikolai Povednikov as telling the Soviet news agency TASS the first 30 SU-24s had been rebased in the western Soviet republic of Byelorussia. It did not say exactly when the aircraft were withdrawn but said the next squadron would be removed in the next few days. The relocation was aimed at underlining the Warsaw Pact's defensive doctrine and had been agreed by the seven allies in the East bloc military grouping. The MiG-27s that will be drafted in to replace the SU-24s would be used in air defence, the general said. "This battle equipment is more geared towards defence, which is in the spirit of the times and also corresponds to the obligations taken on by the Soviet state and its allies," ADN quoted Povednikov as saying.

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Strike spreads to Ukraine; troops out in Abkhazia Soviet miners defiant amid raging ethnic feud

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Striking Siberian miners ignored calls from the Soviet leadership to return to work Tuesday as their unrest spread to the country's richest coalfield in the Ukraine.

The growing industrial trouble, worst since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power four years ago, has been aggravated by her flare-up of ethnic violence, this time in the Black Sea region of Abkhazia, in which 16 people were killed. The interior Ministry troops were sent to the region, where Abkhazians and Georgians fought, and public transport was standstill.

With the labour dispute and intensified rivalries between nationalities are driven, in part, the deteriorating domestic economy which has reached a point in many regions of the country.

The miners, on strike in Siberia's Kuznetsky basin since last week to win better conditions and a political and economic power have been joined by miners in Donbass, the mighty industrial

region of the Ukraine, one official said. The Donbass strike, which began in five mines in Makeyevka, has spread to affect 17 mines, he said.

Workers also put down their tools at two more mines in the Donetsk coal basin in the Ukraine, where 15 shafts are now idle, a member of the strike committee said. That job action began Saturday but was not disclosed until Monday.

In Moscow, the Supreme Soviet speeded up work on a draft law on resolving labour conflicts.

The official news agency TASS carried a report denying that the third major coal region, Karaganda in Kazakhstan, also was on strike.

The government newspaper Izvestia said 4,000 miners were on strike in Makeyevka, and regional communist party chief Anatoly Vinnik had gone to negotiate with them.

In a sign of how serious the situation has become, the Soviet parliament Tuesday announced it was giving

top priority to a proposed new law on strikes.

A Soviet journalist just back from the Kuznetsky basin, the country's second major coal producing region, described an orderly, structured campaign by the miners.

He said roughly 90 per cent of all workers were on strike in Prokopyevsk and Kiselevsk, where only essential services were operating.

Prokopyevsk has become the headquarters of both the strike committee and a government commission dispatched by Gorbachev and Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov to restore calm.

The government commission met strikers there Tuesday but so far they have resisted a call to return to work while solutions are sought to the region's problems, local officials said.

Some miners are demanding Ryzhkov appear himself, the journalist said. "Among the strikers' demands are more autonomy for local enterprises, the right to spend locally generated profits at home, higher pay for night shifts and better medical facilities."

Soviet newspapers said railways, metallurgy plants and electrical power stations were beginning to feel the pinch of dwindling coal supplies, although some deliveries were still being made, thanks to enormous stockpiles of coal.

Meanwhile in Abkhazia, the situation remains tense, Interior Ministry spokesman Vladimir Prokopenko said Tuesday.

Disturbances were reported in the regional capital Sukhumi and in Tkvarcheli Monday, as well as in the Gulgrip, Ochamchira and Gali regions, he said.

Georgians and Abkhazians, some armed with automatic weapons, have been battling for three days along a resort strip on the Black Sea, officials said. At least 16 people have been reported killed in the violence.

Ethnic rioters in numerous cities in western Georgia, including the Abkhazian autonomous republic, broke into prisons and police stations, stole firearms and shot up official buildings, according to several accounts.

TASS said 16 people have died. Gizo Grzeledze of the Georgian Foreign Ministry said that as of Monday, 137 were hospitalised, including 15 in serious condition.

TASS said there were no new clashes Monday, but a highly placed official in Sukhumi, capital of Abkhazia, described the autonomous republic as remaining under virtual attack.

On the border between Abkhazia and western Georgia, "masses of people are moving against the Interior Ministry troops," said the official, who refused to be further identified. "They are armed, with shotguns and automatic weapons."

"In effect, they are spreading terror," he said in a telephone interview.



A miner speaking to strikers in Prokopyevsk, western Siberia

ACC foreign ministers meet today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Ministers of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries — Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen — meet here Wednesday to work out plans and prepare the proper machinery for the implementation of the council's objectives, according to an official statement issued here Tuesday.

The statement said that the foreign ministers' plans would be concerned with helping the ACC, whose headquarters has been set up in Amman, to achieve the aspired coordination and cooperation among the four Arab countries in implementation of the ACC Charter which was worked out by the heads of state of the four at a meeting in Baghdad last February.

Foreign ministers Tareq Aziz of Iraq, Ismat Abdul Majid of Egypt and Abdul Karim Al Iryani of North Yemen will arrive in Amman Wednesday for the meetings, according to the statement.

ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammar said earlier this month that the four countries would move carefully on economic integration and would not sacrifice national sovereignty.

Nammar signed an agreement on locating the ACC headquarters in Amman and held several meetings with Jordanian officials to discuss issues pertaining to the ACC operations.

He said that four states would not rush to scrap customs duties, foreign exchange controls and trade barriers.

At present, Nammar was quoted by Reuters as saying, there is a conviction that each country should maintain its economic and political identity.

Nammar also denied that the ACC had contemplated any plans for military cooperation, but said that its members might work together in arms production.

Accord endorsed

The Council of Ministers Monday endorsed the headquarters agreement signed with the ACC.

In a session chaired by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the cabinet also approved immunity and privileges for the staff of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) as offered to Arab League officials in Amman.

The cabinet also decided to exchange memos with West Germany on a central agricultural workshop and service stations affiliated to the Jordan Valley authority.

Information team

The Council of Ministers also named Jordan's delegation to meetings of the Council of Arab Information Ministers and the permanent committee for Arab information to be held in Tunisia next month. Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali will lead the delegation, which will include Secretary-General Trad Al Fayes, Petra director-general Ali Safadi and Jordan Radio and Television Production Company Director-General Jawad Maraqa.

Bush ends European tour with focus on East bloc

THE HAGUE (Agencies) — U.S. President George Bush Tuesday ended a 10-day European tour in which he placed East Europe high on the Western agenda and vowed to seek a "new world" where former cold war foes would work closely together.

Bush, who began his tour in Poland and Hungary, outlined his vision of a world in which the communist "iron curtain" dividing Europe would be torn down, the East bloc would move to democracy and Western Europe would prosper under a more integrated economy.

"The new world we seek is a commonwealth of free nations working in concert — a world where more and more nations enter a widening circle of freedom," he said during his last stop

in the Netherlands, before flying back to Washington.

"We now have the opportunity to move beyond containment, to integrate the Soviet Union into the community of nations," he said in a speech in Leiden.

Bush left the Netherlands after what he called a lively discussion with Dutch politicians, including opposition leaders, over breakfast in the Hague that he said sometimes bordered on argument.

He said the environment was one of the controversial issues, adding "Everybody wants the United States to pick up the check or everything."

But he added that after the talks, "they understand we are not rolling in money because of our deficit."

Bush said that among the highlights of his 10-day trip to Europe was the presentation by Hungarian Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth of a snippet of the barbed-wire barrier taken down from the border between the East bloc country and Austria.

The president also visited Poland. He encouraged democratic and economic reforms in both Warsaw Pact countries and said he saw no fear of a possible backlash.

"They're not dwelling on that," he said. "There's too much hope, too much optimism. It's still there, but it's overpowered by the moves going on there."

In his speech Leiden, Bush outlined his views of the changes sweeping communist-dominated Eastern Europe.

Chinese fugitives form front

PARIS (Agencies) — A group of fugitive Chinese students and intellectuals Tuesday announced the creation of a movement dedicated to overthrowing the Peking government by non-violent means.

Yan Jiaqi, a dissident intellectual who is one of the most wanted men in China, said students, businessmen and academics in exile around the world would issue a detailed declaration on the "New China Democratic Front" by the end of the month.

Speaking in Chinese at a chaotic news conference on a crowded Paris street, he said the front sought the overthrow of the Peking "minority regime through non-violent means."

He was accompanied by writer Liu Bin Yan, who fled to exile in the United States before the bloody crushing of pro-democracy protests in Peking in early June.

No other leading dissidents were present at the news conference, conducted outside a Paris hotel after the management refused to let it take place inside.

Yan, mobbed by Hong Kong television crews, was whisked away to a waiting car before giving more details. But members of the French Chinese community said the newly-created front included dissidents living in Western Europe, the United States and Asia.

A few hours earlier Peking protested to France about the inclusion of pro-democracy Chinese students in a French revolution bicentennial parade and over demonstrations at its Paris embassy.

The complaints were the latest signs of worsening relations since the crushing of the pro-democracy protests in Peking in early June.

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cy protests in Peking and the sheltering by France of Yan and fugitive student leader Wu'er Kaixi.

Japan explains stand Japan told a Chinese envoy Tuesday it joined other industrialised nations at the Paris summit in condemning China's harsh crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators, but said it hopes to resume "cooperative relations" with its Asian neighbour.

At the meeting between Japanese Foreign Ministry official Tadashi Ikeda and Tang Jiaxuan, China's charge d'affaires in Tokyo, Ikeda said Japan "cannot accept the use of military force against citizens in China from the humanitarian point of view."

"Therefore, our relations with China are naturally restrained," Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe quoted Ikeda as saying.

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The resolution provides for elections in November leading to Namibia's independence from South Africa.

Last week Pienaar issued detailed intelligence reports to U.N. officials and diplomats saying 1,900 SWAPO fighters were massing in neighbouring Angola and hundreds of armed guerrillas were already active inside northern Namibia.

The report prompted fears among some diplomats that SWAPO was about to repeat its mass infiltration last April, which threatened the peace process at birth and sparked the fiercest fighting in a 23-year bush war with Pretoria.

Senior U.N. officials said they found no evidence in a weekend fact-finding mission to support the allegations. A spokesman for

Pienaar said he was satisfied by their findings, apparently accepting that no invasion was planned.

But SWAPO foreign affairs spokesman Theo-Ben Gurirab demanded that Pienaar account for his actions.

He said Pretoria had deliberately tried to divert attention away from stories of intimidation by former members of the widely-feared Koevoet (Crowbar) paramilitary police, and from other attempts to rig the elections.

"If this was intended on the eve of the arrival of the U.N. secretary general... to shift attention away from complaints about Koevoet and their ongoing campaign of intimidation in the north by putting SWAPO in a negative light, it was a very cheap gimmick," Gurirab told a news conference.

He rejected allegations that significant numbers of SWAPO fighters were in southern Angola within 150 kilometres of the Namibian border, a zone from which they are excluded under the peace plan.

During his three-day visit, Perez de Cuellar will find himself surrounded by recriminations on almost every side in this vast former German colony, and will face widespread criticism of problems in the U.N. peace operation.

He is due to meet Pienaar, special U.N. representative Martti Ahtissari and local politicians in Windhoek Wednesday and then make a brief visit to the north. On Friday he leaves for South Africa to meet President P.W. Botha and Foreign Minister Pik Botha.

Gilbi assails Sharon threat

NIS (Agencies) — Arab League Secretary-General Adnan Khatib assailed the international community Tuesday to act "clearly and energetically" against an Israeli minister's call for the death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Gilbi was reacting to hawkish Israeli industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon's demand Monday for the "elimination" of Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and other O officials.

"Arab states are waiting for international community, particularly the influential powers — united on other occasions in their condemnations of terrorism — for a clear, energetic reaction," Khatib said. He condemned the "call for order" as an intolerable offence.

"To defend their policies of aggression and occupation, the Israeli leaders do not hesitate to resort to state terrorism," Khatib added.

Sharon made his remarks in a tour of the occupied Golan Heights. He said the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule had become a war, the most important thing to restore law and order, to bring an end to the terror and violence... and to eliminate the aid of... organisations, first all Arafat," Sharon said.

The United States said Monday that Sharon's call for the "elimination" of Arafat would help efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said U.S. policy favoured an escalation of violence in the Golan.

The department had not seen a full text of Sharon's comments but "if true, as reported, these remarks would seriously not help in that process," he said.

Motta Gur, an Israeli Labour minister, reacted angrily to Sharon's latest statements.

"In talking, Sharon is most effective," Gur told Israel Radio. "As defence minister he is us to a most unnecessary war. Although we were closer to Arafat in Beirut, Sharon did not harm Arafat, I not eliminate terrorism, I not resolve the problem."



The ruins of one of two Palestinian homes destroyed by the Israeli occupation authorities in the Gaza Strip Monday.

Uprising fatalities mount

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An American attorney died Tuesday of wounds suffered in the June 6 attack on an Israeli bus, a hospital spokeswoman said.

The victim was identified as Rita Levine, 39, of Philadelphia. "She talked about a possibility of settling here," hospital spokeswoman Ruth Mekel said.

Mekel said in a telephone interview that Levine suffered serious spinal cord injuries in the incident. She said Levine's body would be flown to the United States Wednesday.

Levine was the only American to die in the attack. Seven other American passport holders were among the 27 people injured in the attack. Fourteen people, of them two Canadians, were killed.

After Levine's death Tuesday, the casualty toll in the incident climbed up to 15 fatalities and 26 injuries.

In the bus attack, a Palestinian from the occupied Gaza Strip grabbed the steering wheel of a Tel Aviv-Jerusalem commuter bus and forced the vehicle off the road into a 60-metre ravine.

The suspect in the attack, Abdul Hadi Suleiman Rassem Ghanem, 23, reportedly carried out the assault to avenge his friend, who was shot in a clash with Israeli troops and subsequently paralysed.

On Monday in the Gaza Strip, Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 17 Palestinians, including three children, hospital officials said.

They said the protesters were shot during scattered clashes during a general strike in the occupied territories called by the underground leaders of the uprising.

Soldiers also shot and slightly wounded an Arab protester in the West Bank.

The army demolished the homes of two Gaza teenagers suspected of stabbing to death a Jewish building contractor in southern Israel Friday.

A Palestinian teenager died Tuesday of injuries sustained when her car overturned after being stoned by Palestinian activists who mistook her for an Israeli motorist, officials said.

Raeda Issa Suleiman, 14, of Beit Safafa in the Jerusalem district, died of head injuries she suffered when the car in which was riding was stoned about 2 a.m. Sunday in the West Bank town of Bethany.

Police and residents said her car apparently was mistaken for an Israeli vehicle because it had yellow Israeli licence plates instead of the blue West Bank tags.

Hospital spokeswoman Mekel said Suleiman was declared dead Monday night. The girl had been hooked to life support systems for two days even though there was no sign of brain activity, Mekel said.

Her death brings to 566 the number of Palestinians killed in the 19-month uprising.

Meanwhile, army prosecutors filed charges against two Palestinian shepherds, Fahem Ramadan Shihani Aji, 21, and Mustafa Othman Omar Al Haj, 21. They are accused of stabbing to death Steven Rosenfeld, a Jewish settler.

A third, unnamed Palestinian shepherd is suspected of participating but has not yet been charged, the army said.

Israel Radio said police are investigating a series of politically motivated incidents attributed to Israeli Arabs.

During most of the 19-month uprising, the 800,000 Arabs with Israeli citizenship have refrained from violent protests like the ones which occur daily in the occupied territories.

In one case, police said an Israeli woman had her car windshield shattered as she passed the Arab village of Turan near Haifa. The woman was not injured.

Also in the Galilee, police investigated the explosion of an army-issued grenade during the night in the village of Rama. The target was uncertain.

In the mixed Arab-Jewish town of Akko, the Palestinian flag and anti-Israel slogans were found scrawled on a wall in the town's main square.

The army confirmed it was using hidden video cameras to photograph Palestinian stone-throwers in action. The films were being used by soldiers to apprehend the stone-throwers on the spot.

"Video cameras are just one more of the variety of measures employed against the intifada, an Israeli spokeswoman said. "They are used to prove guilt in court."

Stone-throwing has been the chief weapon of Palestinians in the revolt and Israeli newspapers reported cameras bidden at known trouble spots on main streets of Arab towns had been instrumental in convicting stone-throwers.

هذه هي الامم المتحدة

Shells continue to hammer Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The flat bark of tank fire and the rattle of machineguns roused thousands of Lebanese from their beds early Tuesday with shells criss-crossing Beirut.

"Shells are falling around us. We are sitting in the corridor... it is dangerous to leave the house now," said an east Beirut resident reached by telephone just before five hours of fighting subsided at dawn.

The deafening clashes shook both sides of divided Beirut and villages outside the capital setting cars ablaze and damaging houses.

Security sources said Syrian backed Lebanese militiamen fired hundreds of shells and rockets from west Beirut and areas to the north into the Christian heartland controlled by army commander Michel Aoun.

There were no reports of casualties.

Troops of the mainly-Christian brigades loyal to Aoun fired back with howitzers at the west Beirut batteries.

The shelling engulfed three parts in the enclave, stretching along the coastline and its surrounding mountains to the north of Beirut.

Tank and machinegun fire swept Beirut's green line which separates the city.

Syria is blockading the enclave in a bid to stop weapons reaching Aoun, who is reported to have Soviet-made Frog-7 missiles, capable of hitting Damascus from the enclave.

An Arab League negotiated ceasefire which came into force on May 11 has been frequently ignored by both sides.

S. Lebanon clash

In South Lebanon, Israeli-allied militiamen clashed with guerrillas killing one and wounding three.

A police spokesman said a tank-led militia force of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) punched out of Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" and intercepted

the guerrilla squad.

The spokesman, who cannot be named in line with standing rules, said the SLA militiamen backed by three Soviet-designed T-54 tanks and three half-tracks, "fought a one-hour battle the guerrillas" about three kilometres north of the "security zone."

"One guerrilla was killed in the confrontation and three others were wounded. SLA militiamen were seen carrying the dead person into one of their T-54 tanks," the spokesman said.

No casualties were reported among the SLA force, according to the spokesman.

He said the SLA force then withdrew into the strip, about 10 to 16 kilometres deep, along Israel's northern border.

The wounded guerrillas, according to the police spokesman, retreated north, to the Bekaa Valley.

The spokesman said he did not know to which faction the guerrillas belonged.



DRIVERS and their families playing cards in the shade of their trucks as they waited their turn to cross the museum passageway flanking east Beirut to the western sector of the Lebanese capital.

Afghan rebel leader downplays massacre

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — A senior Afghan rebel said Tuesday the massacre of 30 guerrillas by a rival rebel commander should not be allowed to divert the Mujahadeen from their main struggle — toppling the Soviet-backed government in Kabul.

"The people responsible should be brought to justice," Najibullah Lafraie of the Jamiat-Islami party told Reuters in a telephone interview, adding this would end the matter.

Some 30 Jamiat guerrillas, including several important commanders, were ambushed on July 9 at Farikhar, in northern Afghanistan's Takhar province. One died in the fighting and the others were executed the following day.

The man responsible was Saeed Jamal, a commander belonging to radical Muslim leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-i-Islami rebel party, according to

Jamiat.

Hezb acknowledged the incident, telling a rebel news agency the quarrel was a private one and not inter-party.

It condemned the incident but referred also to an earlier clash in the same area in which it said Jamiat guerrillas had killed some Hezb commanders.

The U.S. State Department condemned the killings Monday, urging the U.S.-backed Mujahadeen to concentrate on improving the unity and coordination of their movement.

Lafraie, who is "information minister" in the rebels' Pakistan-based provisional government, said Jamiat did not want to quarrel with Hezb-i-Islami.

"It is Saeed Jamal who committed this crime and he happens to belong to Hezb-i-Islami," he said. "It should not divert our attention from the real struggle

against the regime."

The Jamiat commanders were returning from a gathering of guerrilla leaders in northeastern Afghanistan called by a well-known Jamiat fighter, Ahmad Shah Masood.

Masood's men, who control much of the northeast, have frequently clashed with Hezb guerrillas since the civil war began 11 years ago.

The Afghan anti-communist guerrilla movement has been riddled with factionalism, with seven major parties based in Pakistan, eight smaller parties operating from Iran, and innumerable fragments and independent groups.

The provisional government, made up of the seven Pakistan-based parties, was an attempt at unity but it has failed to win over many refugees and guerrillas and has yet to act as a cohesive body.

Western Afghan-watchers in

Pakistan say Hekmatyar's party has traditionally had the best discipline and internal organisation.

But it is deeply distrusted by almost all the other parties, which say it concentrates more on extending its power within the Mujahadeen than on fighting Kabul.

Lafraie denied a report from Kabul that government troops had recaptured a farm at Ghazababad, between the eastern city of Jalalabad and the Pakistani border.

He said fighting was still going on around the former army base at Samarkhel, 20 kilometres from the city, recaptured by the government in early July.

U.S. backing unwavering

In the Hague, Secretary of State James Baker said Monday that U.S. support for the Afghan

rebels was unwavering, but he declined to say whether American weapons supplies were increasing.

Baker also rejected an appeal by Afghan President Najibullah to put pressure on the Mujahadeen to halt their "aggression and interference" in Afghanistan.

The appeal was sent to President George Bush, who is on a visit here with Baker en route home from a seven-nation economic summit meeting in Paris.

Asked at a news conference about reports of stepped-up U.S. assistance to the rebels seeking to bring down the government in Kabul, Baker replied:

"The policy of the United States has not changed. Our policy is to seek and support self-determination for the Afghan people in a number of ways and the nature and character of that support has not changed."



Mohammad Siad Barre

Somalia dismisses rebel allegation

NAIROBI (R) — Somali officials Tuesday denied rebel reports that up to 1,500 people died in riots over the weekend.

Somalia has said 23 people died and 52 were wounded when protesters armed with stones, sticks and knives attacked armed policemen and soldiers Friday.

An Information Ministry official told Reuters in Nairobi that a rebel Somali National Movement (SNM) charge that violence was continuing and that at least 1,500 people died and 2,500 were wounded in the rioting was "a ridiculous piece of naked disinformation."

Diplomats and travellers arriving from Nairobi said they had no firm information on the number of casualties, but dismissed rebel statements that bodies of riot victims were left piled in Mogadishu streets.

Somalia blamed the riots on bandits operating under the cloak of religion.

A SNM statement sent to Reuters in Nairobi said: "Nobody knows so far the exact death toll but according to reliable sources over 1,500 persons were killed and well over 2,500 injured."

The SNM, fighting to topple President Siad Barre's 20-year rule, charged that army units in the northern towns of Berbera and Hargeisa had mutined in support of the protesters.

Diplomats contacted by Reuters in Mogadishu said it was difficult to establish what was happening in the remote towns and said the casualty figures by the SNM appeared exaggerated.

U.S. offers compensation to Vincennes victims

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States said Monday it has offered \$100,000 to \$250,000 compensation for each of the 290 passengers and crew killed when the U.S. warship Vincennes shot down an Iranian jetliner in the Gulf last year.

State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said he expected five of the governments whose nationals were killed in the accident to accept the offer but payments to relatives of 250 Iranian victims would be delayed until an appropriate intermediary was found to distribute the money.

Boucher said government will only turn over the money if the Iranian government, with which the United States does not have diplomatic relations, names an "appropriate intermediary" to disburse the funds.

An intermediary — possibly another government or an insurance company — is needed to make sure the proper people benefit from the money, U.S. officials contended.

Some 250 Iranians were among the 290 people killed on Iran Air Flight 655 on July 3, 1988, when the Vincennes mistakenly fired on the jetliner.

The payment plan, personally approved by U.S. President George Bush, calls for the United States to give the families of each full-time worker \$250,000, while the families of others will receive \$100,000. To get the money, families would have to waive legal claims against the United States.

The package could total \$30 million, with the money coming from a special department fund.

"Although the United States is not liable under international law to pay compensation to the families of Flight 655 victims, on July 11, 1988, President (Ronald) Reagan announced that in accordance with the humanitarian traditions of our nation, the United States would do so on an ex gratia basis," Boucher said in a statement.

A senior State Department official said the United States believes Iran was equally at fault for the accident in part because of its "aggressive conduct" in the Gulf.

"We believe the commander (of the Vincennes) acted properly... but we shot down the plane," the official said. The commander of the Vincennes said he believed he was threatened with attack when he fired the missile at Flight 655 after warning the pilot.

Rafsanjani ready to deal with West on equal terms

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, so confident of winning Iran's presidency that he does not plan to campaign, said in remarks published Monday that Iran was ready to deal with the West on an equal footing.

As president, he pledged, he would aim to revive the country's industry, now running at less than half-speed, and would back a self-off of state factories to raise cash and increase the people's role in the economy.

Rafsanjani set out his programme for four-year presidential term in an interview with the daily Jomhuri Eslami that reflected pragmatic views taking hold in Iran since the death June 3 of supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Questioned about ties with Western countries, he said: "If they deal with us on the basis of equal terms and do not wish to impose anything on the revolution we will deal with them on equal terms."

The presidential election is July 28. The interview was reported by Iran's official news agency IRNA and monitored in Nicosia.

Both Rafsanjani and outgoing President Ali Khamenei, who succeeded Khomeini, as spiritual leader, stress the need for economic growth and good relations with most of the world after eight

years of fighting Iraq.

But Rafsanjani, who played a key role in the secret arms purchases which spawned Washington's Iranagate scandal, said Iran continued to have serious problems with the United States, Israel and South Africa.

Rafsanjani faces one opponent in Iran's fifth presidential elections — Member of Parliament Abbas Shabani, a loser in a 1981 presidential race who presents only token opposition.

A 54-year-old Muslim clergyman currently speaker of parliament and acting head of the armed forces, Rafsanjani said he would not set up a campaign headquarters because people were already familiar with his policies.

"I believe a campaign in its conventional form will be counter-productive. People do not expect me to put out posters and photos," he said.

Rafsanjani backed constitutional amendments to be put to referendum also July 28 which would eliminate the post of prime minister and give all executive powers to the president.

He said Iran would soon begin drilling for oil in the Caspian Sea with Soviet help, a result of ties improved by his visit to Moscow last month.

He said Iran needed to improve and expand higher education and promote scientific re-

search, develop natural gas as the best source of energy, expand the railway network and make better use of water resources.

But in the short-term, the important task is to raise industrial production.

Only "about 30 to 40 per cent of the country's industries are active due to shortage of materials, energy or parts," he said.

Iran's relations with the West, strained since the 1979 Islamic revolution, took a severe blow in February when Khomeini ordered Muslims to kill British author Salman Rushdie for blaspheming Islam.

Rafsanjani said the Rushdie row was a political affair from the beginning in which Britain turned out to be the big loser. Tehran severed diplomatic links with London in March.

A senior British official was quoted here Monday as saying that Britain can normalise ties with Tehran if Iranians change their "unacceptable policy."

William Waldegrave, Britain's minister of state for foreign affairs, told the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Bayan that "Britain is ready to resume ties with Iran if it changed its unacceptable policy."

But Waldegrave said there were no contacts between the two countries for restoration of ties.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Arafat holds talks in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat discussed ways to support the Palestinian uprising with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid Monday, the Algerian news agency APS reported. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), is saying after the meeting that they had agreed on a joint action plan. He gave no details. But he said they discussed political, material and information levels of support for the revolt. He also said 52,000 Palestinians had been arrested since the uprising began in December 1987 and 34,000 were still held in internment camps.

Former Tunisian president in hospital

TUNIS (R) — Former Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba is in hospital for an operation on his prostate gland, Tunis papers reported Tuesday. Bourguiba, who will be at least 86 next month, has been living in seclusion south of Tunis since he was removed from power in November 1987 on grounds of senility. The government newspaper La Presse said an unnamed French doctor would lead the operating team and the independent Al Sahab said the operation would take place soon. Bourguiba's official birthdate is 1903 though he himself has said he may have been born a few years earlier.

Junblatt in Istanbul

ISTANBUL (R) — Lebanon socialist leader Walid Junblatt has arrived in Turkey for an unofficial visit, Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu said Tuesday. Batu said Junblatt's visit to Istanbul from Monday was private and that no official meetings were scheduled, but added that Turkey would help ensure Junblatt's personal security.

Ozal may be presidential candidate

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal says he might run for the presidency when Kenan Evren's seven year term ends in October. "If my colleagues nominate me for presidency and if I agree, I can muster sufficient votes to get elected," the semi-official Anatolian news agency quoted him as saying in the southern resort town of Side. Under the 1982 constitution drawn up under military rule the president is elected by parliament but is barred from serving two successive terms. "The president will definitely be a Motherland Party member. I have come to no decision about my own candidacy yet. But I will not nominate myself," said Ozal whose earlier statements on whether or not he would run for the post were ambiguous. His Motherland Party holds a 290-seat majority in the 450-member parliament.

Bulgarian couple sails to Turkey

ISTANBUL (R) — An asylum-seeking Bulgarian couple has fled to Turkey in a small boat, Turkish officials said Tuesday. Roumen and Soma Berov said they wanted to go to Australia or the United States. They landed at a village harbour on Istanbul's Bosphorus waterway Monday. Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu told Reuters their application for asylum elsewhere would be passed on after Turkish police checks to determine whether they were genuine refugees. Batu also said Alper Kasapoglu, a decathlete on the Bulgarian national team, was seeking asylum and was in the Turkish embassy in the Netherlands. He would fly to Turkey Tuesday.

One killed, two injured in Iran floods

NICOSIA (AP) — One person was killed and two were injured as floods swept across the Sepidan tribal area in Iran's southern Fars province, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. One person was reported missing in the floods, which struck after violent storms in the area Sunday, IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said. It said the Sepidan Yajui road was closed for four hours and apple orchards in the area were damaged by the rainstorms. The town of Jahrom, 100 kilometres south of Shiraz, the provincial capital, also was hit by flooding but no damage reports were immediately available, the agency said.

Soviet deputy defence minister in Kuwait

KUWAIT (AP) — Soviet Deputy Defence Minister Konstantin Kuchetov arrived in Kuwait Monday for a four-day visit and military cooperation talks with Kuwaiti defence officials. The Soviet delegation will have talks with Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah and commanders of the Kuwait armed forces on arms sales to Kuwait, diplomats said. Kuchetov will also visit military installations in Kuwait, they said. Kuwait traditionally depends on the West for its weaponry, but under a diversification policy, has bought arms from East Bloc countries as well as in Egypt, which has a flourishing military industry. Kuwait's biggest arms deal so far with the Soviet Union was reached in 1984. The \$325-million agreement covered surface-to-air shoulder-fired SAM-7 missiles at a time when the pro-Israeli lobby in the United States blocked the sale of the U.S.-made Stinger missile to Kuwait. Last year Kuwait signed another deal for 245 armoured personnel carriers that was estimated at around \$300 million. Around 10 Soviet experts have been in Kuwait training the armed forces to use the Soviet weaponry.

Iran executes 700th drug trafficker

NICOSIA (R) — Iran hanged 13 drug dealers Tuesday labelling them "merchants of death" and bringing to 700 the number of people executed by Tehran this year for trafficking. Tehran Radio said the latest hangings took place in public in Mashhad and Zahedan in the east, Bakhtar in the west and Gorgan near the Caspian Sea. Iran launched a campaign against drugs in January with tough laws which sanctioned death for anyone caught with 30 grammes of heroin or five kg of opium. Addicts, which Tehran says number one million among Iran's more than 50 million people, were given six months to quit or face internment in labour camps. The grace period ends Saturday and officials have said they have prepared lists of thousands of addicts to be sent to camps where they would be put to work during the day and locked up at night until they are completely weaned from drugs.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children's programmes
17:00 Alph
17:30 Educational programme
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Cairo News Message
18:25 Local programme
19:20 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:00 Local programme
22:25 Wrestling
23:10 Varieties programme

PROGRAMME TWO

18:30 Loft story
18:35 Des Chiffres Et de Lettres
19:00 News in French
19:15 Le M d'Heure Procope
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 "You can't take it with you"
21:10 Possession Files
21:40 News in English
22:00 The Dark Angel

PRAYER TIMES

04:05 Fajr
05:37 (Sunrise) Duha
12:42 Dhuhur
16:22 Asr
19:46 Maghrib
21:18 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 652785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 771331
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 772261
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 653526
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 813817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather conditions are expected and winds will be north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 19 / 32

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Aqaba 25 / 40
Deserts 20 / 37
Jordan Valley 26 / 39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32, Aqaba 39. Humidity readings: Amman 34 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Ahmad Othman 786384
Dr. Issa Abu Haidar 637123
Dr. Ahmad Al Daga 674473
Dr. Joseph Insh 770560
First aid 661912
Findow pharmacy 783336
Al Asena pharmacy 637025
Nadrouh pharmacy 626762
Yacoub pharmacy 636730
Simcikhi pharmacy 637660

EBRD:
Dr. Radwan Al Saad (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (98538)

ZARQA:
Dr. Abdul Latif Sharbini (—)

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 624412
Jabal Amman Emergency 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisat 661714
Shmeisat Emergency 669131
University Hospital 845454
Al-Musaber Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/77
Zarya National Hospital 661646
Italian, Al-Mushajir 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26
Army, Marja 89161/15
Queen Alla Hospital 6024059
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarya National Hospital (09)91071
Bin Sina Hospital (09)986732
EBRD:
Princess Beama Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Bin Ali Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Piscos Flaya Hospital (05)314111

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn 64281/6
Al-Shin Maternity, J. Amn 62441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisat 661714
Shmeisat Emergency 669131
University Hospital 845454
Al-Musaber Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/77
Zarya National Hospital 661646
Italian, Al-Mushajir 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26
Army, Marja 89161/15
Queen Alla Hospital 6024059
Amal Hospital 674155
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EBRD:
Princess Beama Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Bin Ali Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Piscos Flaya Hospital (05)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)5220-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
12:10 Damascus (RJ)
12:20 New Delhi (RJ)
12:30 Kuwait (RJ)
12:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
12:45 London (RJ)
12:50 Colombo (RJ)
12:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
13:00 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
13:05 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
13:10 New York, Vienna (RJ)
13:15 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:20 Athens (RJ)
13:25 Paris (RJ)
13:30 London, Geneva (RJ)
13:35 Cairo (RJ)
13:40 Rhodes (add.) (RJ)
13:45 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
13:50 Rhodes (add.) (RJ)
13:55 Jeddah (add.) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:20 Dubai (AZ)
13:00 Baghdad (IA)
13:05 Baghdad (IA)
13:10 Cairo (MS)
13:15 Jeddah, Sana'a (YV)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:25 Kuwait (KU)
13:30 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
13:35 Sana'a (LH)
13:40 Karachi (PK)
13:45 Dubai (FU)
01:00 Tunis (TU)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
12:10 Athens (RJ)
12:15 New York (RJ)
12:20 Tunis (TU)
12:30 London (RJ)
12:40 Istanbul (RJ)
12:45 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
12:50 Rhodes (add.) (RJ)
12:55 Colombo (RJ)
13:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
13:05 Agaba, Cairo (RJ)
13:10 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
13:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)
13:20 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:25 Athens (RJ)
13:30 Paris (RJ)
13:35 London, Geneva (RJ)
13:40 Cairo (RJ)
13:45 Rhodes (add.) (RJ)
13:50 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
13:55 Rhodes (add.) (RJ)
13:59 Jeddah (add.) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Consumer protection society established

AMMAN (J.T.) — A National Society for the Protection of the Consumers has been established in Jordan to help members of the public deal with the difficult economic situation now prevailing in the Kingdom, according to an official statement here Tuesday.

The statement said that Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas has given his consent to the registration of the new society to operate under the umbrella of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) and that final arrangements are under way for the new society to commence its activities and

achieve its objectives.

The statement noted that the society's constituent assembly groups 54 personalities representing various private organisations and citizens with long standing experience in economic or voluntary work.

It noted that the society members will help the public to deal with the present hard economic circumstances in the country and will create awareness among the consumers with regards to consumer commodities.

In addition, the society will be charged with helping local communities introduce real

changes in their consuming habits and avoid negative aspects in their general consumption, with the purpose of helping the Jordanian people rationalise consumption at all levels, the statement added.

It said that the society will orient the consumers on sound means of dealing with food supplies, medicine and other consumer products, and contribute to the national effort for protecting and controlling food and medicinal used in the country.

The society members will be involved in examining the quality of goods and their prices,

and will announce their estimates of the nutritional value of each type of foodstuffs. It will also warn against any harm that could ensue from consuming them.

In addition, society members will also engage in helping families organise budget and will seek new legislations designed to provide protection to the consumers against manipulation and cheating in trade deals. They will deal with campaigns by certain profiteers designed to increase sales and will fight any trend towards unjustified rise in prices.

According to the statement,

the society will direct part of its efforts to encouraging local consumers to use more and more locally produced products and manufactured goods.

Last November, the Ministry of Interior announced that it had opened a special office to crack down on profiteering businessmen exploiting the drop in the dinar's value.

"The citizens complaints office," according to the then minister of interior was aimed at protecting consumers from profiteering and price manipulation and giving equal protection to merchants in instances involving personal acts of revenge.

Premier urges ministries to abide by guidelines in preparing 1990 budget

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Tuesday issued a circular to all ministries urging them to strictly abide by instructions and guidelines pertaining to the preparation of their fiscal budgets for 1990.

In his statement, the prime minister noted that budget figures for capital and current expenditure should be based on the following principles:

— Current expenditure salaries and wages should be worked out on the basis of the actual salary scale contained in the 1989 job organisational chart in addition to the expected annual increases.

Each department, ministry or organisation should make estimates for expenditure at the rate of five per cent less than those estimated for the 1989 fiscal budgets.

— Capital expenditure: Capital expenditure should be confined only to those projects that are being carried out or to which the concerned department is committed to carry out.

Capital expenditure can be allocated also for income-generating projects financed by foreign sources and designed to bring in foreign exchange. Allocations can be made as well for health and education schemes.

The prime minister's circular urged various ministries and gov-

ernment departments to instruct their affiliated offices in the provinces to make their estimates for the 1990 fiscal budget, but to revise the final version with the provincial governors before referring them to the concerned ministry.

While preparing their budgets, various ministries and government organisations are to ensure that projects included in the 1990 budget will be implemented within the means and technical and administrative potential of the concerned department, according to the official circular.

The prime minister also requested that each ministry include in its 1990 budget all financial commitments made during 1989 or before, but noted that under no condition can 1989 allocations be rolled over for the same projects in 1990.

The prime minister said that directors general of departments, ministries' secretaries general, and accountants will be held responsible for all the figures and information contained in the reports concerning the capital and



Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker

current expenditure and the organisational charts in their respective departments.

Normally, the budget department is responsible for studying all these reports for various government organisations before staff can prepare a general report to be submitted to the government or parliament for approval.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

MASAADEH RETURNS: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Saleh Masadeh returned to Amman Tuesday after leading Jordan's delegation to celebrations held in Baghdad to mark Iraq's 21st National Day anniversary. Masadeh also met a number of Iraqi officials to discuss Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation in matters of mutual concern and issues pertaining to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries which include Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and North Yemen. (Petra)

LITERARY CONFERENCE AT YARMOUK: Higher Education Minister Nassereddin Al Assad opens the third literary criticism conference to be held at Yarmouk University on July 24. Taking part in the conference will be representatives from the universities of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Palestine, Kuwait, Libya, Algeria, North Yemen, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Jordan. (Petra)

EDUCATIONAL TIES WITH UAE: Education Minister Abdullah Nsoor Tuesday discussed with the visiting Under Secretary of Education at the United Arab Emirates, Salem Al Ghamai, means of enhancing cooperation in the education and possibilities of secondment of Jordanian teachers to the Emirates. (Petra)

KHAMMASH RECEIVES JAPANESE ENVOY: Transport Minister Hikmat Khammash Tuesday discussed with the Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Makoto Watanabe scopes of bilateral cooperation in the areas of transport and telecommunications. (Petra)

IRAQ MUNICIPALITY BUDGET APPROVED: Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yusef Hamdan has endorsed the JD 98,298 budget of Iraq Municipality in Karak Governorate. The Iraq mayor said that the budget included an allocation of JD 47,320 for the construction of boundary walls, JD 15,000 for the construction of roads, JD 8,000 for the purchase of equipment, JD 4,000 for the construction of embankments and JD 3,000 for public gardens. (Petra)

KHLEIFAT RECEIVES HANDBALL TEAM: Youth Minister Awad Khleifat Tuesday received the Jordanian handball team, which will be representing Jordan in Saddam Championship, which started in Baghdad Tuesday. Khleifat stressed the importance of participation in international championships, saying that it enriches the players expertise and eventually contributes to achieving good results. (Petra)

INCOME GENERATING PROJECTS: The National Aid Fund (NAF) set up five income generating projects at a cost of JD 2,450, benefiting five hardship cases. The fund also supplied artificial limbs and other medical aids last June at a cost of JD 315,000 to five other cases. (Petra)

HEAT WAVE ENDS: The heat wave which has affected the country during the Eid Al Adha holiday ended Monday evening, giving way to a relatively cold air mass, coming from south east Europe, according to Ali Abanda, director general of the Meteorology Department. Abanda expected a fine weather during the next three days, due to the effect of the air mass. Justifying the heat wave, which affected the Kingdom during the first three days of Eid Al Adha, Abanda said the rise in temperatures which reached 35 degrees in the hilly areas and exceeded 42 in the Jordan Valley and Aqaba was caused by a hot air mass of an Indian sub-continental origin. The hot mass crossed the country through the northern parts of the Arab peninsula and Iraq. (Al Dustour)

ISRAELI INHUMAN PRACTICES: The executive bureau of the General Union of the Palestinian Doctors and Pharmacists has called on the world humanitarian institutions and trade unions to use all available means to prepare the Israeli occupation authorities to stop their inhuman practices against the Palestinian people. In an urgent appeal issued Monday here, the union's executive bureau called for dispatching an international fact-finding mission to study the prevailing conditions at the concentration camps as well as the physical and psychological tortures to which the Palestinian detainees are being subjected to. (Petra)

RJ plans to implement Yield Management System by 1990

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) is planning to implement a Yield Management System (YMS) by the beginning of 1990, according to RJ News received Monday.

The YMS enables users to project demand on the basis of historical data such as fare type, traffic, and point of sale, using these to calculate the "average revenue per passenger." Accordingly, offers can be adjusted to concentrate on high yielding output, which helps assure maximum occupancy flights.

For this purpose a working team, chaired by Majdi Sabri, has been formed of personnel from Marketing and Sales, Corporate Planning and Data Processing. The committee will set func-

Majdi Sabri

tional and technical specifications of the system.

The YMS is fast becoming a key element in the profitability of airlines and aims at the optimisation of flight revenues. For the past few years the YMS has been widely implemented in the United States and Europe, and various systems have been developed to cater to the needs of individual airlines.

Royal Jordanian will be among the first to use YMS in the Middle East.

Badran urges FAO to establish regional data bank in Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — Agriculture Minister Adnan Badran Tuesday urged the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to establish a regional data bank in the Middle East linked to the Rome based network so as to monitor the movements of the desert locusts and give early warning to the countries of the region.

Such a data bank would provide essential day to day information about swarms of locusts that might be heading towards the region and thus help them take necessary precaution, the minister said at the opening of a three-week training seminar on combating desert locusts which opened in Amman.

Delegates from various Middle Eastern countries are taking part in the training seminar which was organised by FAO in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

"Jordan is keen on stepping up its cooperation with all the countries in the region and pledges to employ all available means to eliminate the dangerous pests and stem their spread to other countries," the minister told the



Adnan Badran

meeting.

He said that the Ministry of Agriculture, which is in charge of organising the fight against locusts, is coordinating its operations with the Jordanian Armed Forces, the Public Security Department and other organisations.

Towards the end of last year, Jordan's southern and southeastern regions were invaded by swarms of desert locusts, and

"thanks to thorough coordination on the part of the concerned authorities, a successful campaign was launched to rid the country of these pests," the minister noted.

Badran voiced the Kingdom's deep appreciation of FAO for its continued help to countries in the region by providing information on the movement of the desert locusts which, he said, contributed to Jordan's success.

Badran noted that FAO has been providing technical assistance to the Kingdom along with the other countries in the Middle East.

FAO, along with a number of friendly nations, provided funds and technical assistance to Jordan during last autumn's locust invasion of the Kingdom, following an appeal for the assistance made by the Minister of Agriculture who said then that more than \$2 million will be needed to cover the cost of equipment and pesticides required to fight off the pest.

According to specialists, a swarm of desert locusts covering an area of one square kilometre might contain 40 million locusts which eat up to 80 to 120 tonnes of plantation in one day.

Khammash urges modernising land transport company fleet



Hikmat Khammash

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Minister of Transport Hikmat Al Khammash Tuesday visited the head offices of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company and was briefed by its director general on its operations and development.

According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister requested that the company's fleet of trucks and other vehicles be modernised and increased in implementation of the company's general assembly resolutions in Amman, and the minutes of the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meetings in Damascus.

The modernisation programme, the minister said, is designed to enable the company pursue

expansion and make further earnings.

Last February, the joint company's general assembly announced that its fleet of trucks transported 1.5 million tonnes of goods between Jordan and Syria and the rest of the Arab World since the company's establishment in 1986.

The higher committee, which met in the Syrian capital under the co-chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and his Syrian counterpart Mahmoud Al Zou'bi, called for the modernisation of the fleet and urged the company's technical department to make assessments for priorities.

According to Khammash, the joint company should be considered as "a fruit of successful cooperation between Amman and Damascus."

Later Tuesday, Khammash visited the Amman office of the Unified Company for Land Transport which takes charge of all land transport operations between the port city of Aqaba and destinations inside Jordan and abroad.

He discussed with officials matters related to compensation for damages and shortages in transported goods from Aqaba to Iraq.

Experts to discuss future of U.S. space programme

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American Cultural Centre in Amman Wednesday will host a live television dialogue with Wordnet on the 20th anniversary of the Apollo moon landing and the future of the U.S. Space programme.

Dr. Amin Badraddin, president of the Jordan Technology

Group, will exchange views via satellite with the Washington guests: former astronaut James Lovell, Jr., now executive vice president of the Cintel Corporation, and Dr. Carl Pilcher, director of the Science Division of the Office of Exploration of the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).



Coaches from Jordan, Iraq and Syria Tuesday begin training course in handball (Petra photo)

Arab handball coaches training begins

AMMAN (Petra) — Sports coaches from Jordan, Iraq and Syria have gathered here for the first international coach training course in handball.

Addressing the 30 participants, Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat stressed the need for planning, organising and training coaches

for the Arab World to provide the essential skill that would develop sports programmes.

Abdullah Abu Nowar, chairman of the Jordanian Handball Federation which organised the course, said that training sessions for coaches are bound to contribute to the improvement of the Arab World's sports standards.

The week-long training session will be dedicated to discussing modern techniques and trends in training handball players and benefiting from the experience of advanced nations.

12,000 slaughtered sheep arrive from S. Arabia

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 12,000 heads of sheep, slaughtered by Muslim pilgrims near Mecca during this year's pilgrimage season, have arrived in Amman to be distributed to the needy, according to a report in the local press.

The report said that the total allocation for Jordan of the slaughtered sheep is 40,000 which will be shipped in refrigerated trucks.

More than a million pilgrims performed this year's annual pilgrimage and each was reported to have slaughtered sheep, camels or cows in the course of the traditional pilgrimage rites.

The Saudi Arabian government undertakes the distribution of the slaughtered sheep to various Islamic governments which organise their distribution to the needy families.

The report quoted Dr. Ahmad Qatani, director of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department as saying that the sheep will be distributed in accordance with lists of needy people provided by the Ministry of Social Development, the provincial governors and the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs which organises procedures for Jordanian pilgrims who travel to Mecca.

A special committee is in charge of receiving the refrigerated trucks at Mudawwara, a Jordanian-Saudi Arabian border post, and direct them to various destinations where the meat is distributed to poor families, Qatani noted.

CSC receives 45,988 applications for work

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) received 45,988 applications for work from Jordanian citizens, including 16,712 applications for males and 29,276 for females, according to the CSC annual report for the year 1988.

The report said that the CSC has appointed 6,947 persons, or 15 per cent of the total applicants at the various government departments, including 1,818 male university graduates, 1,413 community college graduates and 3,447 holders of the General Secondary Examination Certificate.

The figure also included 1,177 female university graduates, 2,031 community college graduates and 292 holders of General Secondary Examination Certificate.

The report divided applicants into three categories: university graduates, community college graduates and holders of the general secondary certificate.

The number of applicants holding university degrees totalled 11,450, while the number of community college graduates was 26,689 and the number of Tawjihi holders was 7,849.

Rawabdeh meets Badr residents

AMMAN (Petra) — Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh Tuesday said that the municipality's expenditure on areas that have recently been annexed to Greater Amman Municipality exceeds the revenues collected by residents in such areas.

At a meeting with residents of Badr area in the outskirts of Amman, Rawabdeh said that the municipality collected the amount of JD 88,000 from Badr area residents in 1988 while its expenditure on the area totalled JD 300,000.

However, Rawabdeh noted, the municipality is ready to reconsider the taxes, licence fees, fees of road construction and asphalt, and fees for constructing culverts, boundary walls and gardens.



Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh

He pointed out that the municipality applies a fair approach in providing the services to the various areas.

Rawabdeh also voiced readiness to cooperate with Badr area residents in establishing a club and a building to Mu'tamed Ibn Abbas Society, and to make the necessary contacts with the departments concerned to connect electric power to the quarters which are without electricity.

The Badr area director explained the services provided by the municipality with a view to developing the area.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of posters which show the history of puppets at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

Handwritten signature or stamp at the bottom of the page.

Jordan Times

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 Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Verdict of confidence

THE grant of an \$80 million loan to Jordan by the International Monetary Fund is tantamount to a vote of confidence by the international monetary system in the Kingdom's earnest attempts to heal its economic and fiscal wounds. This is also a vindication of all those who relentlessly upheld their unwavering conviction that Jordan is here to stay no matter how vicious are the designs and conspiracies that are being fabricated against it. As for the enemies of the country, who waged on the country going under, the decision of the IMF came as a major disappointment from which they may never recover.

Moreover, the \$80 million loan from the IMF is expected to generate additional good news for the country. To begin with official Jordanian negotiations with the Paris Club with a view to reschedule Jordan's loans owing to foreign governments are proceeding on a very encouraging note. These on-going talks came in the wake of successful contacts with the representatives of commercial banks in London aiming for rescheduling the country's loans due to foreign banks. In due course and on the heels of all these positive negotiations one may expect Arab and non-Arab governments to resume their aid programmes in order to further buttress the economy of the Kingdom.

Nevertheless, such positive and welcome verdicts from various quarters are only the beginning of the long tortuous road that Jordan and Jordanians must take. That means that none of us in Jordan may relax our vigilance as yet. We have earned the confidence of the international monetary systems after much sacrifice and hard work. A lot more is required of us in order to fully recover from the economic and fiscal malaises that hit our country in recent times.

In this vein, Jordan may recover much of Jordanians' hard currency accounts by simply offering higher interest rates on such accounts. Many developing countries facing similar fiscal problems have been able to lure back fleeing hard currency accounts by such lucrative measures. Coupled with iron clad assurances that hard currency accounts will be immune from any kind of interference by the state, an offer competitive with foreign banks, with regard to the interest rate payable on such foreign currency accounts, would ensure the recovery of much of such accounts. Such business-like measures are surely more productive than pious lecturing or making threats or issuing innuendoes.

And once the dinar exchange rate stabilises in the wake of the string of measures being contemplated by the government, Jordan would become well on the road to overall recovery. The main thing to keep in mind at all times is that panic cannot be rectified with panic. That is exactly what Amman is now doing.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Tuesday discussed the general situation in Jordan and said there are real causes for optimism about the future. The paper referred to the King's decision to restore parliamentary life and to create a national charter; and the Kingdom's inclusion in the Arab Cooperation Council as major elements that feed such optimism and cause the Jordanian people to look with greater confidence towards the future. The difficult circumstances that face the country serve as a test for its people, who, the paper said, have shouldered greater burdens in the past and overcome bigger obstacles. The reasons behind the present difficulties, the paper continued, stem from this country's adherence to pan-Arab commitments and principles, and a determination to defend the homeland at any cost and to provide support for the Palestinian people. It said that regardless of the pressures and the hardships there is no question about the Kingdom's total pan-Arab commitment, and there is no chance for any one to delay the march towards development and progress.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily urges the government to help as many students as possible who have finished their secondary schools to join the four universities in Jordan and save a great deal of foreign exchange being spent on students abroad. Salah Abdul Samad says that it is natural for thousands of students and their parents to look with hope towards the new measures which are to be issued by the Ministry of Higher Education for admitting students in the 1989-1990 academic year in the four universities. It is hoped that the concerned authorities will not take any measure to reduce the chances for students applying for seats at the universities, but rather take a step forward and enable these students to remain in their country among their relatives and friends to acquire higher education at as little cost as possible, the writer notes. He says that new courses could be opened at the universities and community colleges which offer a real service to the community, and new measures can be taken to help greater numbers to embark on subjects considered of paramount importance for development in all fields. In this way, the writer notes, the universities will not only help pave the way for Jordanians to acquire higher education, but will also curtail the volume of unemployed people in the Kingdom.

Al Dustour daily hailed a decision by the International Monetary Fund to grant Jordan an \$80 million loan as an indicator of confidence in the Kingdom's sound economic policies. The paper said that the loan proves that the economic reform programme is heading in the right direction and paves the way for an improvement in the economic, financial and monetary situation in the Kingdom. In fact, the loan is part of a package deal agreed with the International Monetary Fund to help Jordan carry out its economic reform programme, which if implemented sensibly over the coming five years, will help Jordan return to its previous position with regard to foreign exchange dealings, the paper noted. It said that the arrival in Paris of a Jordanian delegation to negotiate a rescheduling of Jordan's loans due to foreign countries and banks is also another cause for optimism, and is considered as another constructive step towards the promising future.

ECOLIGHT

Is privatisation needed in Jordan?

THE answer to the question "Is privatisation needed in Jordan?" is unequivocally yes. What is surprising is that the issue seems to be dead. The previous government, which campaigned for the cause never realised its objectives. So what went wrong?

As a new idea, privatisation was talked about without going through the trouble of explaining what it is and how to accomplish it. In a narrow sense, it meant divestiture, or selling government equity shares in shareholding companies. In a larger sense, privatisation referred to the act of turning certain public corporations into public shareholding companies. Three such corporations were originally contemplated. Those were the Royal Jordanian Airlines, the Telecommunications Corporation and the Public Transport Corporation. Three years and a half passed without taking a single action, although so much energy was spent in vain on the issue.

The most important approach to privatisation is not any of the two narrow definitions cited above. The more appropriate definition is the larger one which considers privatisation as an overall process to restructure the roles of both public and private

sectors in the economic life of the country. There must be a political will, supported by political preference to engage in the privatisation process in order to ensure appropriate conduct, time tables, and continuity.

Privatisation is not a naive act of equity appraisal and shares dumping. It is an integrated socio-political economic process. It cannot succeed without the presence of conducive conditions. It means, among other things, the intention to degovernmentalise, deregulate, decentralise and last to disinvest. It is a consistent package of policies that should be compatible and harmonious. You cannot talk of privatising a certain corporation while the government assumes larger direct intervention in other areas. The last government treated privatisation as a means to sell shares and acquire funds without the willingness to surrender any of its controls. That is an inherent consistency that renders privatisation a futile effort — and it was.

It may seem now that irregularities within the Jordanian economy call for stricter control. No. They require a more efficient government — and there is an ample room for that.

Turning the management of certain activities to the private sector does not weaken the government's regulatory function, it readjusts such role towards emphasis on an "arbiter" function which governments were meant to do in the first place.

The myth that the government role is to respond to rising expectations, or employ job seekers, or subsidise consumption and production or to invest are unfounded. The budget cannot sustain all of these things. National income will have to come mainly from domestic sources. To give more subsidies and salaries will have to entail more taxes — a very dim alternative indeed.

Privatisation is, therefore, a needed step. It will mean more efficiency, better management, better allocation of resources and better goods and services. We should start the process after formulating a full-fledged plan. The implementation can be spread over a longer period of time and with certain selected companies. To try to go for the big corporations from the beginning will cloud the effort with unneeded scepticism. Yes, for a well-thought process of privatisation.

By Jawad Anani

Japan: talk of coalitions, opposition government gaining steam

By Eric Talmadge
 The Associated Press

TOKYO — A growing number in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party are beginning to think the unthinkable — that voters will give the opposition a shot at taking the helm of the nation.

Since its formation in 1955, the LDP has produced all of Japan's prime ministers. But party leaders say it now faces an unprecedented crisis caused by scandals and unpopular policies.

The start of an erosion of LDP power could come July 23 in elections for half the seats in the 252-seat upper house of Japan's two-chamber parliament. A major failure by the LDP in that vote could force earlier elections in the lower house — now scheduled for some time next year — and, ultimately, a new government without the LDP at its head.

The six-year terms of 66 upper-house LDP members have expired. To keep its majority, the party must win back 34 of those seats — a feat that analysts and pollsters don't expect.

"We are very confident the LDP will lose its majority," said Takashi Yonezawa, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Party.

The DSP, fourth-largest opposition party in parliament, has been negotiating with the leading opposition Socialists, the Buddhist-backed Komeito (clean government party) and the leftist Social Democratic Federation to ward forming a coalition government in case the LDP loses its mandate.

Those four parties currently account for 78 seats, against the LDP's 142, and will need to win another 49 to gain control of the upper house.

There are major differences among the four, however, on what changes to make in the policies of the pro-business, pro-Western LDP.

At a news conference Friday, Yonezawa called the Socialists' policy "unrealistic," and suggested willingness to form a loose coalition with the LDP instead. The LDP and DSP, both conservative, say the Socialists would end the U.S.-Japan security treaty. The Socialists say they would seek revisions.

"The DSP holds a balancing

ticket, and, depending on the outcome of the election, could play a pivotal role in Japan's politics," he said.

One junior LDP lawmaker ruled out such an alliance, however.

"If the people's decision goes against the LDP... then I think that instead of forming a coalition of our own, it might be better to turn the government over to an opposition coalition," Shizuo Sato, a first-term member of the more powerful lower house, told the Associated Press.

"I'm sure they'll fail and hurt the economy," Sato said. "Then the people will realise the value of our party. We would also have time in the interim to regroup and resolve some of our internal problems."

Sato quickly added, however, that he doesn't advocate simply handing over power: "I just mean that (this might be the best) if we have no choice because of the way people vote. We are doing our best to see that they stay with us."

After a major loss in Tokyo elections earlier this month, Trade and Industry Minister Seiichi Kajiyama told reporters, "speaking as a lawmaker and not a cabinet member, I think it might be good for the party to turn the administration over to the opposition once. That would give us time to regroup."

An aide later told the Associated Press the comment did not apply to national-level politics, and was strictly a reaction to the LDP's fall from 63 to 43 seats in the 128-member Tokyo metropolitan assembly. But the aide added, "this might be different if there are big losses in the upper house."

Several other cabinet ministers have privately expressed similar views, said political analyst and author Asao Yamaguchi, "but they say so on the condition of big losses later, in the lower house."

The LDP holds 243 of the lower house's 512 seats. Elections there need not be held until next year, but a ruling party loss in the upper house could generate political pressures forcing an earlier vote, seen as unfavourable to an LDP still struggling to regain public trust.

Support for the LDP has dwindled due to a sales tax that took effect April 1, an influence-

buying scandal and allegations that Prime Minister Souda Uno kept several paid geisha mistresses. Farmers, traditionally a reliable source of votes, have been alienated by LDP moves to open Japan's markets to agricultural imports.

The liberal Asahi Shimbun said Friday that in its nationwide poll July 9-10, 28 per cent of those surveyed said they planned to vote Socialist, compared with 21 per cent support for the Liberal Democrats. Another 40 per cent were undecided.

Before similar elections three years ago, the Asahi poll put LDP support at 46 per cent against 11 per cent for the Socialists.

Roughly 80 per cent of the 2,410 people responding to the

poll said they hoped the LDP would either lose its majority or that a governing-opposition party parity would result. Even among those who claimed to be LDP supporters, the poll found 21 per cent wanted the party to lose its majority.

Facts and issues

TOKYO (AP) — Basic facts and figures for the election July 23 for Japan's house of councilors:

At stake — 126 of the 252 seats in the less-powerful upper house of Japan's two-house parliament. Of the 126, 76 will be decided in geographical districts. The other 50 will be decided according to the percentage of the nationwide vote received by each of the 40 parties entered — most of them

small, single-issue parties. Winners serve six-year terms. A party needs 127 seats for a simple majority and 139 to control all 16 permanent standing committees in the house.

Current strength — Liberal Democratic Party, conservative, 142, (73 will remain in office for three more years); Japan Socialist Party, leftist, 43 (21); Komeito (clean government party), middle of the road, 23 (11); Japan Communist Party, leftist, 17 (9); Democratic Socialist Party, middle of the road, 12 (5); other parties and independents, 15 (7).

Number of eligible voters — 93.1 million.

Major issues — The opposition parties are attacking the LDP, in power for the last 34 years, over a widespread influence-buying

scandal that forced former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's resignation and a 3-per cent sales tax that took effect in April in a package that also included income tax cuts. Farm groups have protested over recent moves to open Japan's market wider to imports, and women's groups have been angered by allegations that Souda Uno, prime minister since June 2, kept paid mistresses. The LDP has apologised for the scandal, vowed reforms in laws on political donations, promised to review problems with the new tax and cancelled plans to cut the price paid to farmers for their rice. Uno has declared that he has done nothing immoral. The LDP argues that socialist economic policies would be ruinous.

Blacks' hero, whites' enemy

By Rich Mkhondo
 Reuters

NEW BRIGHTON, South Africa — In a two-storey township apartment in South Africa's Eastern Cape, a grey-haired man receives visitors like a head of state.

Govan Mbeki, 79, a veteran leader of the African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla organisation, analyses current events with the eloquence of a seasoned parliamentary politician.

But while blacks see "Uncle Gov" as a national hero and foreign diplomats regard him as a probable minister in a future black government, he is viewed as a threat to state security by the white minority government.

In November 1987 Mbeki was released on humanitarian grounds after 23 years in jail alongside ANC leader Nelson Mandela for trying to overthrow white minority rule.

Within weeks he was served with a government order restricting him to his home town of Port Elizabeth, barring him from giving press interviews, being in the company of more than 10 people or leaving his magisterial district without government permission. He challenged the curbs in court without success.

Mbeki, a close friend and colleague of Mandela, is one of the most senior ANC officials ever

released from prison.

"Uncle Gov is fit for any description of a head of state. He has such stature. When he talks or reads he could be likened to a retired professor," said anti-apartheid activist Arnold September.

Immediately after his release Mbeki reaffirmed his support for the ANC's guerrilla campaign to end white domination and said he was still a dedicated Communist. His home is in New Brighton, a run-down township adjoining Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape. The region is regarded as a stronghold of the ANC.

Before his imprisonment, the ANC's Eastern Cape chairman had been a journalist and leading left-wing intellectual. He has a degree in economics, an honorary doctorate from Amsterdam University and has published a book and many articles.

Despite the curbs Mbeki receives scores of visitors every day. When a Reuters correspondent visited him privately, he interrupted a busy session on his word processor and said he was ready to discuss any issue.

Many foreign government officials visiting South Africa visit New Brighton to hear his views.

On July 23 Mbeki will have lunch at his apartment with Gerald Kaufman, Britain's opposition Labour Party foreign affairs spokesman.

quest of the United States government, Pretoria allowed him to travel to Johannesburg to hold discussions with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen.

"The government thought they could render him useless, but they did not succeed. Although his presence is symbolic since he cannot openly address people, he engages intellectually with anybody about any subject and is well informed," human rights worker Daniel Daniels said.

"What is the logic of that — to try and remove from circulation the only people who can say to the masses in times of violence: 'Hold back'?" he asked.

Mbeki's release was seen as a dry run for Mandela's. The ANC leader remains in custody but there are persistent hints he may be freed soon.

On July 5 South African President P.W. Botha held an unprecedented meeting with the ANC leader, intensifying speculation that he plans to order Mandela's release.

Last Wednesday, Mandela issued a statement challenging Pretoria to negotiate with the ANC and a coalition of anti-apartheid groups known as the Mass Democratic Movement.

Political analysts suggest Pretoria could release Mandela, and impose stringent restrictions on him as they have done on Mbeki.

But others say Mandela stands heads and shoulders above Mbeki and other political prisoners, and because of his international status would probably ignore restriction orders.

Mbeki's wife and daughter live in the nominally-independent black homeland of Transkei and visit him occasionally. His three sons left South Africa many years ago.

One of them, Thabo Mbeki, is ANC director for information at the organisation's Lusaka headquarters. He is regarded as a possible future ANC leader.

Mbeki has been refused a passport to travel overseas to visit his sons and to accept numerous invitations to lecture at universities in Europe and the United States. He has been asked to attend conferences in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Iceland.

"It is all part of a plan to make him as uncomfortable as possible," his lawyer Priscilla Jana told Reuters.

Friends and activists say Mbeki considers that Pretoria's apartheid reforms are cosmetic and that the government has not begun addressing fundamental issues such as black, political rights.

They say he believes black majority rule is inevitable.

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مطعم الأمل

The glory of the French revolution — 200 years later

By Nelly Lama
Reporting from Paris
Special to the Jordan Times

PARIS — How positive can the French be? The French revolution of 1789 has, in the last year, been featured all over the world. Theatres have taken up the theme of the fall of the Bastille. German television had a stuffed toy mouse bid his viewers goodnight on the 14th of July with a guillotine beside him while the announcer wore a revolutionary hat. American kids from Texas reenacted the revolution concentrating on the bloody events.

Only in France did the French revolution convey an "air-de-fete" that brought about outbursts of creativity, idealism and joy centering on different elements, namely: architecture, art, music, the theatre, pageantry, ballet and the minor arts.

Architectural feats have risen in Paris, a new Arch of Triumph erected on the same axis as the old arch and the Louvre, on the west of Paris at "la defence." On the east rose the opera of the Bastille.

Both structures were inaugurated on the same day by President Mitterrand who sees them as "the achievements of his realm." The arch represents a search for the monumental character in the manner of a modern cathedral. The purity of its form, a rectilinear cube with its centre open to the sky, incited Mitterrand to say, "as all great works, this one has the force of simplicity." The arch, 38000 square metres, was designed by Danish architect Otto Van Spreckelsen. Descending its monumental staircase, one can see the Arch of Triumph, the Champs Elysees and the Louvre in the distance. It was here that the G-7, the chiefs of the richest states in the world chose to meet while actors recited the rights of man. Sculptures and paintings by Rodin, Monet and Picasso bedeck its walls. Its furniture was conceived by minimalist designers Andie Putman and Thierry Conquet. One hundred metres below, in the base of the cube, an exhibition will open on the 19th of July and for six months, "The crossing of Paris" using the axis Defence-Bastille to reveal a long history, from the Tuileries of the last Valois to the Paris of Mitterrand. The viewer will have to wear an infrared casquette and circulate in a world where fact, fiction, decorum, sight and sound tell the events

of the three centuries.

The opera of the Bastille, on the other hand, was built to fulfil a "popular plebiscite for lyrical art" which the Grand Opera of Garnier failed to do. The objective of the Elysee was to build an opera house with a "modernism that allows the doubling of attendance while reducing running costs." It expects one million guests a year for 250 performances. The opera house was designed by Canadian architect of Uruguayan origin, Carlos Ott. "My opera is for everyone. It is not designed for the elite, therefore, it must be simple and readily comprehensible to all." It includes a hall with 2700 places and another modular hall for 600 to 1300 people, for contemporary creations. The G-7 group attended the inaugural ceremony while the 14th of July saw Jesse Norman and the petit chanteurs du monde give a spirited performance of "Te Deum."

The arrival of 30 heads of states to celebrate the bicentennial created great frenzy among the French who spent a long time preparing menus catering for every taste, taking care not to offend anyone, wishing the flowers to help Corrie Aquino's allergy, choosing the right wine (Marsault served) erecting a cheese Bastille, etc. In brief, the French outdid themselves. After all French hospitality is legendary.

The highlight of these festivities was when President Bush of the United States presented President Mitterrand with the key of the Bastille which had formerly been offered by Lafayette to George Washington.

For the 14th of July, most of the streets of Paris were deserted, some metro stations were closed while the public circulated on bicycles and sinclairs. The sidewalks were studded with people, almost everyone wore a tricolour badge or the hat and costume of the "sans culottes" the revolutionaries. All of Paris was covered with the tricolour (bleu, blanc, rouge) the shops, whether selling bedsheets or underwear, furniture or kitchen ware, everything figured in blue, white and red. They call it "tricolour-a-gogo". French nationalism goes a long way.

Many Parisians left to a more peaceful village abode to watch the manifestations of television, which by the way, were very well and humorously commented upon.

On the morning of the 14th of July the military parade on the Champs Elysees showed precision, colour and great music. Aeroplanes flew above forming the traditional tricolour smoke flag from the Arch of Triumph to the Louvre.

In the evening, 9:00 p.m. a grand "ballet-opera" manifestation took place in the same place; it was the "Marseillaise" of Jean Paul Goode, king of publicity, who preferred Indians to cowboys, animals to men. In his ballet-opera, he stressed universality, a reconciliation of nations, an assembly of the different people under the flag of "liberty, equality, fraternity."

This reminds us of Mitterrand's response to Mrs. Thatcher who commented that the French had not "invented" these three ideals, he said "but we have managed to make them universal."

While the 30 heads of states watched from the hotel Grillon and privileged invitees sat at the Concorde, sidewalks, windows and roofs around the Champs Elysees were overcrowded "there are more people here today than at the liberation of Paris" claimed an old observer.

Chinese silence

The 6000 participants, 2000 coming from abroad, were filmed by 38 French cameras and 80 television stations. The procession started with the Chinese walking silently, ringing bicycle bells, no one mounted on the huge drum that ambulated behind them, as-reminder of the bloody events in China. This was followed by 3000 drums and 1100 traditional musicians from all the regions of France. "It is the largest body of musicians ever brought together." These followed the paleoedecians, or flag throwers, flags, drums and faces lit up, they formed a great illuminated volume in the approaching darkness.

Fifteen ladies with huge skirts spread over vehicles twirled around waltzing to the music of Feyrouz each holding a child of different nationalities, wearing his national costume and holding his flag. A Palestinian child figured among others.

A French modern ballet came next clacketing their sabots (wooden shoes), followed by the African pageant, with the Senegalese director Doudoul, known for his having 38 wives, directing from the top of a monumental structure an orchestra, a group

of six women in tricolour, and 450 pedestrian colonial soldiers. A little stage in front of the vehicle showed African girls in tulle dresses and garlands (costume of the swan le ballet) gesturing and dancing to African rhythms. What could be more original? This mixing of cultures, of lights and of sounds put the audience in some kind of trance. Russian soldiers marched in an outpour of artificial snow followed by traditional Russian dancing and singing while on an ambulant oval rink, a white bear skated with a ballerina. Next came a display of constructivist costumes and decorum reminiscent of the artistic and literary movement during the Russian revolution.

The American marching band appeared with pom-pom girls or cheer leaders, three stages with break-dancers and the Bronx hard metal drummers.

Indian dancers, a pageant in the form of a pyramid with musicians and topless dancers from Guinea reminded us of the history of slavery, their country having been the recipient of most ill.

The Scottish tattoo musicians, bagpipers and all, followed, while the Kent firebrigade sprayed modern dancers with water.

All the participants ended up in the Concorde square singing together the "prelude" of the Marseillaise. After a brief silence, the voice of the grand American diva Jesse Norman sounded loud and clear from the Obelisk of Ramses II, under which she was standing in a tricolour robe designed by Ezzedine Alaia, accompanied by the choir of the "petits chanteurs du monde" she sang the Marseillaise.

A great spectacle followed where the fountains of the Concorde spat fire instead of water. Oval patches of light danced on the now empty square while laser beams shot upwards. "Not too much for an event that takes place once a century" explained the commentator. "It is the price of 5 'long metrage' films."

That price, the opposition claimed is \$300 million. The FR3 channel ended its late night emission of "musique musique" on the 14th of July, with Eric Heitsick's paraphrase of the Marseillaise.

To turn a revolution into a creative aesthetic event can only be done by the French. They explained it this way: "The revolution ends in the perfection of happiness."



Artist's right to protect his works

By Christopher Callahan
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mowry Baden spent more than a year creating "Wild Celery for Stephen Davis," an abstract steel sculpture nestled among wildflowers and eucalyptus trees at the University of California at Irvine.

Eight years later, the sculpture was razed, a casualty of university expansion. Construction workers said they mistook it for scrap metal.

"I was devastated," said the Canadian artist, who had dedicated the maze of 18-metre steel ramps to a friend and colleague. "It's like having your arm cut off."

In most states, Baden would have received little more than sympathy since the school had paid him for the work. But Baden filed suit under a 1980 California law, the first of its kind in the United States that gives artists the right to protect their works from destruction and alteration after the sale.

A \$15,000 settlement helped Baden heal the wounds. "It's like they say, 'don't get mad, get even.' If you're insulted like that and you don't act, that's what leads to protracted anger, which is debilitating," he said.

This year, congress may be ready to follow the lead of California and eight other states and

establish similar protections for artists nationwide. Opposition from auction houses, movie studios and others largely has been removed through a series of legislative compromises.

The concept that artists retain rights even after their works are sold, that art works remain the "intellectual property" of their creators, is derived from French law. The American tradition of treating art as "pure property," no different from an automobile or a pair of shoes, was inherited from British law, said Mark Fischer, a Boston attorney who has brought cases under Massachusetts' artist protection statute.

"If you bought a painting under the French tradition, you couldn't destroy it because you carry part of the artist's personality with it," Fischer said. "Under the English law... you (could buy) a Renoir and paint it red."

A 1986 scheme by an Australian mail order firm in which Picasso's Linocut, "Trois femmes," was sliced into one-inch squares and sold for \$135 each is the best known — but by no means only — case of deliberate art destruction.

Lesser-known cases are vilified with equal fury by the art world: a painting covered with profanities and sliced up by the artist's ex-girlfriend, a set of sculptures carved with crosses by owners who thought the works were pos-

sessed with evil.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and Rep. Edward J. Markey, both of Massachusetts, have taken the debate over artists' rights to Capitol Hill.

"A work of art is not a utilitarian object, like a toaster; it is a creative work, like a song, a poem or a novel," said Markey. "We should not pretend that all connection between the artist and the creation is severed the first time the work is sold."

This year's version of the visual artists' rights act is narrower and less controversial than unsuccessful attempts of past years.

Under the measure, artists would be given the right to bring a civil copyright suit against art owners for the "distortion, mutilation or other modification" of paintings, drawings, sculptures and limited edition prints and photographs.

The proposed law pointedly excludes films and books, somewhat easing anxiety in the motion picture and book publishing industries.

Both groups have said they will not oppose the revised legislation, although they remain apprehensive over whether the bill be seen as a prelude to federal bans on the colourisation of black-and-white film classics and on other commercial activities. The revised legislation also eliminates part of the original bill that would have allowed artists to

collect a 7 per cent royalty on high-profit works that are resold from one collector to another.

Advocates argued that it was unfair for the creators of sculptures and paintings to sell their works for tiny sums only to have them resold years later at much higher prices.

But R. Frederick Wadsworth, president of the art dealers' association of America, said the provision would benefit "only the few well-known artists who have established a secondary market for their works" and could discourage art sales.

In a compromise that won the support of the art dealers, the revised bill calls for the national endowment for the arts to study the issue and report back to congress.

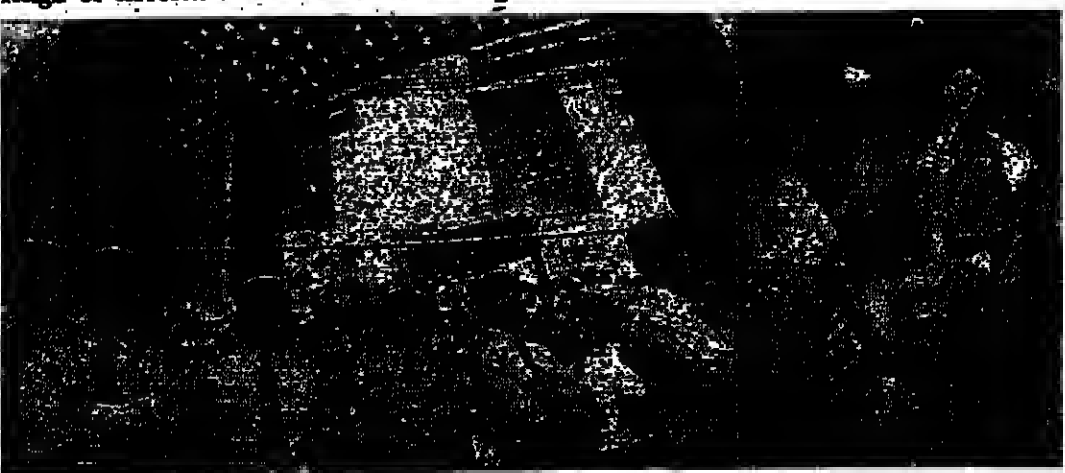
Kennedy held a senate hearing on the bill last month and a house field hearing in New York City is scheduled this month.

The importance of government protection of art goes beyond the artist's agony over losing a creation, the bill's supporters say. There are financial ramifications as well. "The continued physical existence, especially of a publicly displayed work, greatly enhances the artist's reputation and provides a living portfolio of the artist's work for all to see," said Peter H. Karlen, a California attorney who specialises in art cases.

For the 14th of July, most of the streets of Paris were deserted, some metro stations were closed while the public circulated on bicycles and sinclairs. The sidewalks were studded with people, almost everyone wore a tricolour badge or the hat and costume of the "sans culottes" the revolutionaries. All of Paris was covered with the tricolour (bleu, blanc, rouge) the shops, whether selling bedsheets or underwear, furniture or kitchen ware, everything figured in blue, white and red. They call it "tricolour-a-gogo". French nationalism goes a long way.



Reign of terror... French aristocrats being taken to the guillotine.



Bastille day... the new Bastille Opera towers above crowds and a police cordon; right,

late-night revellers dance in the Palace de la Bastille.

Russian fish clean American ponds

By Elliott Minor
The Associated Press

HAWKINSVILLE, Georgia — In a novel use of genetic engineering and species transplantation, a Russian fish has been put to work to aid American fishermen.

Transplanted from their homes in Russia and China and made sterile by "shock treatment" after their eggs are fertilised, the plant-eating fish have been put to work clearing weeds that snag fishermen's hooks and motorboat propellers.

The white amur was introduced to the United States in 1963. The long, slender fish commonly known as the Grass Carp has proven effective in controlling underwater and floating weeds, said Tim Murphy of the University of Georgia Extension Service.

"They do an excellent job of cleaning a pond by eating the vegetation," said Paul Williams, co-owner of a hatchery that produces the long, slender fish. "It's going to open up ponds and streams that are unusable."

South Carolina's Water Resources Commission plans to stock Lake Marion, a major recreational area, with 300,000 Grass Carp over a three-year period. The agency has been able to eliminate some weeds with

chemicals, but not Hydrilla, which has closed large sections of the 110,000-acre lake.

"Grass Carp are known to feed on Hydrilla," noted Danny Johnson, director of the commission's surface water division.

The Tennessee Valley authority has asked Congress to fund a weed control programme for its 68,000-acre lake Guntersville in Northwestern Alabama. The plan includes stocking the reservoir with Grass Carp, maybe as early as next year.

The agency has significant weed problems in six of nine major reservoirs along the Tennessee River, said David Webb, a biologist with the TVA's Aquatic Plant Management Programme in Muscle Shoals, Ala. "Our primary concern is the Hydrilla. It's expanding into the shallower areas near the docks. We know it has the potential to replace just about every other things out there."

Herbicides are often used to control aquatic weeds, but they are expensive and time-consuming to apply, said Murphy. Chemicals also could pose problems if people use the pond for swimming or if the water is used to irrigate crops.

"Stocking with Grass Carp is usually less expensive than one application of chemicals, and you

have something that will last for 10 years," said Williams, who has been selling the fish since 1985.

Grass Carp grow about .45 kilogramme a month up to about 15 months. In ponds they typically weigh between 9 kilogrammes and 13.6 kilogrammes. To get effective weed control, pond owners need 10 to 20 fish per 0.4 hectare, said Murphy. They cost \$5-\$10 each.

To keep the non-native fish from getting out of hand, the State Department of Natural Resources requires pond owners to use sterile Grass Carp in Georgia.

The sterile fish, known as Triploids, have 1.5 times the normal number of chromosomes, said Alfred Mauldin, a DNR fisheries biologist.

To create Triploids, breeders like Williams "shock" the eggs just after fertilisation with ex-

treme heat, cold or pressure, causing the eggs to retain the extra chromosomes, rendering the offspring sterile. Only Triploids will be used in Lake Marion and the Guntersville reservoir, said Johnson and Webb.

One disadvantage to Carp is that they don't provide immediate control. "You will see benefits right away, but I'd say it will normally take two years to get the kind of control that most people will be happy with," Murphy said.

Howard Harrison, a McDuffie county landowner, said he learned of the Carp through neighbours and bought 20 fish for his one hectare pond. "We've got to have them to get that old green stuff out of our pond."

"Several of my neighbours have them and they do a good job."

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مكتبة الأمل

U.S. May trade deficit jumps to \$10.24b

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. trade deficit shot up 23.6 per cent in May to \$10.24 billion, the Commerce Department said Tuesday, the biggest gap since last December and a worrying sign for U.S. exporters.

Exports fell 0.9 per cent to \$30.47 billion, while imports jumped 4.3 per cent to a record \$40.71 billion.

The sharp deterioration in the seasonally adjusted May deficit was far above projections by Wall Street economists, who had expected on average a \$9.2 billion shortfall.

The May deficit represented a 23.6 per cent increase from a revised \$8.29 billion trade gap in April when the country registered the lowest monthly trade deficit in four years.

The news sent the dollar sharply lower on currency markets. An increasing trade deficit points to the need to lower the dollar in order to make U.S. exports more competitive.

The U.S. currency was quoted at 1.9065 Deutschmarks soon after release of the data, down sharply from 1.9235 marks just before the figure was released. The dollar closed in New York Monday at 1.9035 marks.

The government said that exports fell for the first time since

February from April's record levels — a troubling sign for the industrial sector.

Until recently, overseas demand for American goods has stimulated industry, making up for sluggish consumer spending at home. American manufacturers may feel further constraints if exports continue to decline, economists said, contributing to a slowdown in the economy.

Imports, in turn, jumped to a record level, indicating America's appetite for overseas goods has not been dampened by tight consumer spending.

Although the trade deficit narrowed sharply last year to \$118.5 billion from 1987's record \$152.1 billion deficit, the rate of progress has clearly slowed since then.

Washington is especially concerned about the huge trade gap with Japan, the largest of any single country. Both nations have agreed to discuss the "structural" root of the imbalance in a bid to reduce trade tension.

In May the trade deficit with Japan rose to \$4.28 billion from

\$3.89 billion in April. The United States had a trade deficit with Western Europe in May of \$78 million.

Oil imports jumped to \$4.81 billion in May from \$4.14 billion in April, reflecting increased crude oil prices.

In the first five months of 1989, the total U.S. trade deficit was a seasonally adjusted \$46.29 billion compared with \$49.56 billion in the same period a year earlier, the government said.

Economist Michael Evans, head of a Washington consulting firm, said the increase in May was partly a bounceback from an artificially low number in April, but he said the monthly trade deficits are likely to rise gradually for the rest of the year.

"I wouldn't say this was a fluke or that it's going to get better again," Evans said. "I think it's a harbinger of things to come."

Meanwhile, U.S. officials predict the fiscal 1990 federal budget deficit should fall below the \$110 billion legal limit despite the weakness of the economy, congressional sources report.

The officials, asking not to be identified, said Tuesday's report of next year's economic performance would reveal that the White House expects the deficit to be about \$99.5 billion.

The projection, well below the

ceiling mandated by the Gramm-Rudman deficit-reduction law, assumes that the savings in the 1990 budget, approved by Congress in May, are all enacted. The 1990 fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

Even if \$5.7 billion in income from sales of federal assets is not included — and it cannot be counted under Gramm-Rudman procedures — the deficit still would be \$105.2 billion. Because of disagreements between the administration and Congress, few people expect the assets to be sold anyway.

Failure to meet the Gramm-Rudman shortfall target triggers automatic spending cuts in most domestic and defence programmes.

Sources said the Office of Management and Budget, the White House's budget arm, will concede that the economy is likely to be weaker than the administration projected in January.

One source said the office would forecast that short-term interest rates in fiscal 1990 will be 6.7 per cent, and that the economy will grow by about 2.7 per cent.

The new, more pessimistic interest rate and growth projections will be more than counter-balanced by forecasts that the government will collect about \$10 billion more in revenues next

year than previously expected, one source said.

In January, the White House projected that the economy would grow by 3.4 per cent next year and that short-term interest rates would be 5.5 per cent.

Many outside economists and the Congressional Budget Office considered the administration's January projections to be too low. Preliminary 1990 projections that the budget office sent to Congress earlier this month called for economic growth of 1.7 per cent and 90-day interest rates of about 7.2 per cent.

The healthier the economy, the lower the federal deficit can be expected to be. That is because when the economy is performing well, the government collects more taxes, pays fewer social benefits to people out of work and pays lower interest rates on the money it borrows.

The May budget was written one month after congressional leaders and Bush administration officials reached a deal claiming to reduce next year's deficit to \$99.4 billion.

Many of the savings — such as no longer counting the postal service's expected \$2 billion in losses for next year in budget calculations — have been criticised as illusory.

Canada may keep interest high to fight rising inflation

TORONTO (AP) — Interest rates are likely to stay high in Canada despite their drop in the United States because of the Canadian government's determination to control inflation, economists say.

"I don't think there's much chance of their coming down," Marc Meagher of Merrill Lynch Canada said Monday. "I'd be sort of inclined to look for more stability than any decline over the short term."

"I don't think that recent months argue for any easing (of interest rates)," added Mark Chandler of the Royal Bank of Canada in a telephone interview.

Inflation rose in June to a 5.4 per cent year-over-year rate, the highest level in more than five years, after a five per cent rate in May. In June 1988, inflation was at 3.9 per cent.

Finance Minister Michael Wilson said last week in Paris that high inflation in Canada leaves little room for loosening domestic monetary policy. He said a "different perception" on inflation in the United States allows American officials more flexibility to ease monetary policy.

The Bank of Canada kept its rate at 12.30 per cent last week,

in the same range it has been since early June. The rate is the minimum cost of short-term financing to Canada's chartered banks, who have been offering most day-to-day loans at 13.5 per cent.

The prime rate in many U.S. commercial banks has dropped as low as 10.5 per cent. That rate is charged to customers with the best credit ratings.

Many analysts believe that the widening differences between Canadian and U.S. rates has contributed to the Canadian dollar's strength since spring, attracting investors. It has been trading in the range of 83 to 84 per cents to the U.S. dollar, one or two cents higher than most forecasts had predicted.

As in the United States, the Canadian economy has expanded for seven years. Projections of a slowdown in the next year are widespread, with some mention of a potential brief recession.

A survey of forecasts by the Toronto Globe and Mail's Report on business earlier in July projected a fall to 2.9 per cent in annual growth for 1989 and 1.5 per cent next year, down from the 4.5 per cent increase in the gross

domestic product that was registered in 1988.

Strong growth, however, took place in the first quarter of 1989 when real output rose at a 3.8 per cent annual rate.

Wilson said in June the economy's strong showing in the first part of the year indicated the Bank of Canada's high interest rate policy was justified.

The Bank of Canada's governor, John Crow, has said repeatedly that keeping the lid on inflation is his top priority. The increase in June inflation, however, was largely a result of higher federal and provincial taxes and seasonal food prices. As such, most Canadian private sector analysts believe the figures would not prompt the government to push interest rates even higher.

The employment situation in Canada also boosted the view that the government must hold off before declaring that the brakes on the economy have been applied sufficiently. No drop in interest rates is expected until indications are clearer that the economy actually is slowing down.

In June, unemployment fell to 7.3 per cent, which was its lowest since summer 1981.

OAU and ANC demand pressure on South Africa

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The Organisation of African Unity (OAU) called Tuesday for imposition of a mandatory international oil embargo on South Africa to try to force the white-dominated government to end apartheid racial segregation.

"If a total oil embargo were to be imposed on South Africa, its reserves would last for only six to seven months," OAU Secretary-General Idriss Oumarou told African foreign ministers preparing for the annual summit of their heads of state next week.

"The application of the oil embargo on South Africa is very important, more especially because oil is one of the rare strategic commodities which South Africa lacks," he said.

A U.N.-sponsored oil embargo against Pretoria has been in force since the 1970s but is not binding on member nations.

Oumarou sharply attacked international oil trading companies British Petroleum, Caltex, Mobil, Shell and Total, accusing them of flouting the oil embargo on South Africa.

The 49-nation OAU, brushing aside Pretoria's efforts to reform apartheid and in conceding Namibia's independence, is preparing to adopt a series of tough measures against the country to try to force radical political and economic changes.

Oumarou urged Western states to join a global effort to impose sweeping economic sanctions on South Africa and accused Taiwan, Japan and Hong Kong of moving their businesses into South Africa to replace American firms that had disinvested in protest against apartheid in the past few years.

Turning to Africa's \$230 billion foreign debt, the OAU chief, who is from Niger, renewed African calls for the holding of an international conference to work out ways of easing the burden on the world's poorest continent.

Western nations have repeatedly spurned the calls, saying they preferred to deal with each country's debt and not with Africa as a bloc.

The African National Congress (ANC) and anti-apartheid groups from Europe, North America and Asia are launching a campaign to stop any new rescheduling of South Africa's \$24 billion foreign debt, the ANC said Monday.

Representatives of anti-apartheid groups from 16 countries, who met in London over the weekend to formulate a strategy, called for protests later this year at the offices of selected U.S., British, West German, Swiss and French banks.

"An agreement with international banks on the rescheduling of its debt... would represent a

new lifeline for apartheid and open the way for new inflows of capital and investment into South Africa," an ANC communiqué said.

The ANC is the main guerrilla group fighting the South African government.

The anti-apartheid campaign will attempt to stop South Africa from rescheduling a major portion of its foreign debt scheduled to fall due by June 30, 1990.

The ANC said \$11 to \$13 billion could be covered by a new agreement with banks. But some analysts have put the sum at a level closer to \$9 billion.

A South African embassy official in London said his country had yet to decide whether to seek a new rescheduling pact.

"What the need will be — the form and size, and actually whether it will be necessary to have one at all — has yet to be determined," the official said. "The situation may change, and change significantly."

South Africa's current rescheduling agreement, initiated with foreign creditor banks in 1987, requires it to make full repayment on long-term loans but only token payments on short-term debt frozen under a 1985 moratorium.

Pretoria imposed the moratorium after creditor banks cut off loans amid anti-apartheid pressure.

Turkey presses EC membership

BRUSSELS (R) — Turkey urged the European Community (EC) not to discriminate against its two-year-old bid for EC membership in favour of Monday's new applicant Austria.

"We are first on the list of applicants both in terms of chronology and by the nature of our

ties with the Community," Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Ali Bozer told Reuters.

Bozer, on a two-day visit here, also said he doubted that neutral Austria would join before NATO member Turkey.

"I think it's difficult, being neutral, to subscribe to the Com-

munity's final goal of a politically united Europe with a more or less common foreign policy," Bozer, also minister of state for EC affairs, said in an interview.

He also believed the EC would handle Turkey's application first despite its Muslim identity and lower standard of living.

"The Community is not obliged to do so but I don't think it can neglect the supremacy of law — which implies examining all applications without discrimination," he said.

Bozer added that Turkey's 1963 association agreement was designed to lead to full membership and that Turkey's political and legal system were as developed as those of EC states.

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ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Israelis to protect in 'human chain'

TEL AVIV (R) — Jewish Israelis will link hands Sunday along the highway between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv to protest at rising unemployment. The Histadrut trade federation, representing more than 80 per cent of the Israeli work force, said Tuesday jobless Israelis would form a "human chain" along a stretch of the 60-kilometre highway. The economy will come to a standstill during a two-hour general strike and workers will demonstrate outside state offices. "This is a real strike to sound the alarm and protest and express solidarity and apply pressure on a subject that affects us all," a leading Histadrut official told reporters. The nationwide strike, the first in four years, was called after unemployment topped nine per cent in June compared with an average of 6.4 per cent last year. The strike will close Tel Aviv international airport, government radio stations and most public and private concerns.

Iran to diversify exports to China

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Trade between Iran and China reached \$600 million last year and is expected to rise sharply, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Monday in a dispatch from Beijing. The agency said Iran's main export to China is oil but that the Islamic republic is preparing to add shoes, textiles, carpets, foods, handicrafts, ballbearings, household appliances and construction materials to the list. In return, Iran will import coal, paper, metals, tea, rice and chemicals from China, IRNA said. China also is expected to assist Iranian reconstruction after the eight-year war against Iraq through helping build electricity generating plants, it quoted export promotion director Hussein Khabbazi as saying during a trade fair in the Chinese capital. China supplied Iran with about \$1 billion worth of arms during the war, including missiles and jet fighters, according to Western diplomats. Both countries have denied that the arms sales took place. Relations have grown closer since the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war. The two countries have signed economic cooperation agreements for construction of a dam and two power plants in Iran and for sharing communications technology.

Sudan prints money to block gap

KHARTOUM (AP) — The Sudanese government has printed more than a hundred million dollars worth of local currency to cover a demand by people forced to trade in foreign money, the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said Monday. It said 1.5 billion Sudanese pounds (\$125 million) in cash were flown in from England where they were printed at the Bank of England. Quoting Khalil Ibrahim Hamid, spokesman of Sudan's central bank, SUNA said many traders were still reluctant to deposit their money in banks, adding to the shortage in local currency. Soon after a military coup overthrew prime minister Sadek Al Mahdi on June 30, the new leadership ordered citizens to trade in their foreign currency or face trial by a military court. The order granted a one week grace period and a July 21 deadline, threatening the death penalty for hard currency dealers. The tough measures have brought in about \$25 million and taken out at least 300 million Sudanese pounds, leaving banks in the capital, Khartoum, short of cash for the past five days. People also have been reluctant to deposit local currency in banks because of new, unstable limits on cash withdrawals. Since the coup, the value of a U.S. dollar fell sharply from 21 Sudanese pounds to 12 pounds.

World steel output remains strong

BRUSSELS (R) — Crude steel production by the non-communist world, one gauge of the health of industrial economies, remained strong in the first half of 1989, figures have showed. The Brussels-based International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI) said January-June output in the 33 countries which report to it was up 3.7 per cent at 245.3 million tonnes from 236.7 million in the same period of 1988. "It would be hard to see how things could improve. All countries are running at a very strong level," an IISI official said.

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GATT weighs world trade rules for tourism, transport

GENEVA (R) — Trade negotiators from around the world Monday began looking at how principles governing international commerce could be applied to foreign tourism and travel.

The multi-million dollar sector was described in a recent study by the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) as the world's largest in terms of employment.

The issue, along with air, sea, road and rail transport services, was under discussion at a week-

long session of a group charged under the GATT Uruguay Round negotiations with working out a framework of principles and rules for international trade in service industries.

The group last month discussed telecommunications and construction, and in September will deal with financial services and professional services, such as management, advertising, engineering, design, surveying and legal services.

The GATT, under whose auspices the 105-nation Uruguay Round was launched in 1986, has previously concentrated mainly on merchandise trade. The Geneva-based trade forum is attempting for the first time in its history to draft regulations governing trade in service industries.

The GATT secretariat report found that total sales in the world tourist industry, in its broadest definition, reached \$1.9 trillion in 1987.

It defined tourism services as all travel, both international and domestic, for business and pleasure, and numerous activities in the related sectors of restaurants, hotels, and recreational and similar enterprises.

Tourism was the world's largest industry in terms of employment, contributing significantly to the economies of both advanced and developing countries, it added.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

| Tuesday, July 18, 1989 | | Swiss franc | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Central Bank official rates | | 345.7 349.2 | |
| Buy | Sell | French franc | 88.1 89.0 |
| U.S. dollar | 572.0 578.0 | Japanese yen (for 100) | 402.4 406.4 |
| Pound Sterling | 918.8 928.0 | Deutsche mark | 265.1 267.8 |
| Deutschemark | 286.9 301.9 | Swedish crown | 87.9 88.8 |
| | | Italian lira (for 100) | 41.3 41.7 |
| | | Belgian franc (for 100) | 142.9 144.3 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign-exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

| One Sterling | | U.S. dollars | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|--|
| One U.S. dollar | | Canadian dollar | |
| 1.6043/53 | 1.1905/15 | Deutschemark | |
| 1.9210/20 | 2.1570/80 | Dutch guilder | |
| 1.6005/15 | 40.19/23 | Swiss franc | |
| 6.5170/5220 | 1392/1393 | Belgian franc | |
| 142.60/70 | 6.5340/90 | French franc | |
| 7.0200/50 | 7.4600/50 | Italian lire | |
| 369.60/370.00 | | Japanese yen | |
| | | Swedish crown | |
| | | Norwegian crown | |
| | | Danish crown | |
| | | U.S. dollars | |

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — The share market closed higher despite a bout of mild profit-taking in the afternoon. The All Ordinaries index closed 1.7 points up at 1565.

TOKYO — The market was paralysed by political anxiety ahead of upper house elections Sunday. The Nikkei index eased 112.49 points to close at 33,343.73.

HONG KONG — Share prices ended slightly firmer in trade inhibited by insufficient time for investors to adjust positions. The Hang Seng index added 2.84 points to close at 2,505.48.

SINGAPORE — Prices rebounded in the afternoon despite some profit-taking to close higher on selective buying and bargain-hunting. The Straits Times industrial index rose 2.61 points to 1,361.61.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered broadly on scattered bargain-hunting after falling sharply Monday. Tata Steel rose 20 rupees to 1,382.5.

FRANKFURT — West German shares closed mostly lower but up from the day's lows as concern about the 12.30 release of May U.S. trade data kept investors mostly sidelined. The index closed 2.34 points down at 1,520.65.

PARIS — The 50-share price indicator fell 0.47 per cent on U.S. trade data.

ZURICH — Early profit-taking followed recent gains but buyers emerged at lower levels. The all-share Swiss performance index gained 2.9 to 1,126.3.

LONDON — Shares were marked down in response to a higher-than-expected U.S. trade gap. At 1535 GMT the FTSE was down 1.8 at 2,273.1.

NEW YORK — A steeper-than-expected rise in the May trade deficit gave Wall Street what an analyst called "a little bit of a jolt," sparking a sell-off of stocks and bonds. At 1637 GMT the Dow Jones industrial average was 11.76 lower at 2,541.73.



Rushdie book in French on sale

PARIS (AP) — The French edition of the controversial book that led to threats and violence by enraged Muslims in many countries — "The Satanic Verses" by Indian-born Briton Salman Rushdie — goes on sale in bookstores Wednesday, its publisher announced.

The book, first published in English last year, is considered blasphemous by many Muslims. It provoked a death threat to its author by Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and demonstrations by angry Muslims in many cities around the world.

"I am not publishing this book to reignite a religious war, but because a publisher must respect his obligations," Christian Bourgois, head of the Editions Christian Bourgois publishing company, said in a radio interview Tuesday.

"I am publishing it under my name, and I have received the public support of the minister of culture, Jack Lang, in the name of the government... to publish a book is not a provocation for a publisher."

Publication of the French edition has been postponed several times.

Rushdie himself has been living in hiding since controversy first erupted around his book.

"I don't feel in danger, but I can only take seriously the demonstrations that occurred in February in the Middle East, in Pakistan or in London," Bourgois said, adding that he and his family had been taking special security measures since last winter.

"This is the integral version of the book," Bourgois said. "There was never any question of publishing a modified or truncated version. I have always intended to publish this book in its integral version, that is, 585 pages."

The publisher would not say how large the printing of the French first edition was.

"It's a big printing," he said. "Tens of thousands of copies have been ordered. Most of the big department stores have ordered copies as well."



An effigy of Salman Rushdie swings from a noose in Tehran

Japanese in China receive death threat

PEKING (AP) — A Chinese group identifying itself as the "Blood-Bright Dare-to-Die Squad" has threatened to kill two Japanese in China each month to stop an alleged Japanese economic invasion, the Japanese embassy said Tuesday.

The group mailed a letter, written in Chinese, to Japan Airlines' Peking office saying the killings would start after Aug. 15.

The letter also threatened other nationalities, saying "Other countries that invade economically in the same way will get the same result," according to a Japan Airlines official in Peking. He spoke on condition of anonymity.

There were no reports of other companies, Japanese or non-Japanese, receiving threats, several Western embassies said. "We don't know how serious this is," said Hideo Watanabe, first secretary of the Japanese embassy. He said the embassy contacted Peking police and planned a meeting with them later Tuesday.

China has no known organized terrorist groups, although sporadic acts of sabotage are reported from time to time and usually are attributed to disgruntled individuals. Officials controls and supervision extend to many aspects of daily life, making it difficult for any underground organization to operate.

But there has been speculation since the Chinese army crushed student pro-democracy protests June 3-4 that some of the protesters would turn to underground activity.

When dynamite exploded on a Shanghai-bound train June 26, killing 24 people, authorities said they suspected sabotage. Results of a police investigation have not been released.

The Japan Airlines official said he believed the letter writers' real target was the Chinese government, not Japan. "I think the person selected Japan Airlines because (it) is comparatively famous," he said. He said he did not believe the threat would be carried out.

Superpowers agree on key chemical pact issues

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Washington and Moscow have reached agreement on key issues of a treaty banning chemical weapons, including a timetable for destroying them and procedures for inspecting factories, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

Quoting Bush administration officials, the newspaper said the recommendations of the two governments would be submitted to the 40-nation conference on disarmament in Geneva.

In Washington, U.S. State Department officials were not available for comment on the report. The draft treaty, eight years in the making, would ban development, production, possession and transfer of chemical weapons. The Geneva protocol of 1925 prohibits the use of chemical weapons but not their manufacture or stockpiling.

Chemical weapons were used in the Iran-Iraq war which ended last year.

Under the U.S.-Soviet pact, some chemical weapons and production equipment would be destroyed annually over a 10-year

period. Each country could retain some weapons until the end of the transition period.

The Soviet Union and the United States have by far the biggest arsenals of chemical weapons.

The newspaper reported that a U.S. State Department official said the two sides had agreed in principle on "a mathematical formula" prescribing the amounts and types of chemical weapons to be destroyed over the 10 years.

The two nations also agreed on procedures for surprise inspections, though this could pose questions in the United States under the fourth amendment of the constitution which prohibits "unreasonable searches and seizures."

Discussions on a chemical weapons convention have been conducted on and off in Geneva for eight years.

Max L. Friedersdorf, the head of the United States delegation to the Geneva conference, told the Times in a telephone interview that "we reached agreement on a very complete, detailed proposal for the conduct of challenge inspections."



Herbert von Karajan

Karajan buried in family ceremony

VIENNA (AP) — Herbert von Karajan, the brilliant Austrian maestro and long-time conductor of the Berlin Philharmonic, has been buried at a family ceremony, a spokesman at the Salzburg Festival said Tuesday.

Karajan died of heart failure Sunday at his home in Anif, a town just outside Salzburg. He had long been ill and severe back pain made it difficult for him to walk unaided to the podium.

Karajan, 81, was buried in the family crypt at the Anif cemetery Monday night following a religious service in the local parish church attended by family members and guests, the spokesman said.

Karajan was to have opened this year's festival with Giuseppe Verdi's opera "A Masked Ball," with Placido Domingo.

Festival officials said the celebrations to follow the premiere would be cancelled and the festival would hold a memorial ceremony for Karajan July 30.

The festival directorate said it was not yet known who would replace Karajan to conduct the opera and a concert with the Vienna Philharmonic scheduled for August.

In a radio interview Monday, Salzburg Festival President Albert Moser said Karajan's French-born wife Eliette was by his side holding his hand as the conductor's pulse stopped. Doctors were called but could no longer help, he said.

Karajan has two daughters, Isabelle and Arabelle. Eliette Mouret is his third wife.

Tamil rebel group orders mobilisation

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka (R) — A former Tamil guerrilla group controlling Sri Lanka's northern and eastern regions said Monday it had ordered 10,000 former cadres and supporters to return to the group to help with administration.

Arumugam Murugesan, political coordinator of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) denied the group was running a forced conscription drive in its fight against the rival Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

"This is a time of crisis. We need them. We have ordered them to rejoin," he told Reuters in northern Jaffna, as dozens of young boys fled the city to escape the alleged drive.

"(The conscription) story is being spread by our opponents. We have a right to ask our cadres to return. We trained them and looked after them. Now we want them," he said.

Government censors must approve all news from Sri Lanka relating to public security. They deleted part of this report.

Jaffna residents said boys, many between 15 and 17 years, were grabbed off the streets and forced into EPRLF trucks to form an additional military force to combat the Tigers.

The government has said it is investigating reports of forced EPRLF conscription and last week set up a welfare centre in Colombo for Tamil youth fleeing their homes in the north and east.

Murugesan said the EPRLF needed manpower to run the administration. "We have sufficient numbers to fight the Tigers. But we need people for administrative functions."

He said many former EPRLF members wanted to rejoin but were being prevented by their

parents.

"These boys left the group when it was banned in 1986 and have been doing odd jobs since then. Parents don't want them to take up arms again," he said.

The EPRLF, banned by the dominant Tigers in squabbling between rival militant factions, accepted the 1987 pact between India and Sri Lanka aimed at ending a separatist revolt by minority Tamils. It gained control of an elected administrative council in the north and east regions.

The Tigers, who rejected the agreement, are fighting both the 45,000 Indian troops based in Sri Lanka to enforce the pact and a 3,000-strong civilian volunteer

force comprising mainly EPRLF members.

As a result of the alleged conscription drive, young boys have vanished from the streets of Jaffna. "They have all fled to Colombo or are hiding elsewhere," said one resident.

A Sri Lankan airforce official said at least 50 boys per day had fled to Colombo in the past month after the alleged drive began. Other reports said more than 5,000 had left the north and east.

Outside the hotel where Murugesan was speaking, 10,000 white-clad supporters lined up to pay their respects to two slain Tamil leaders.

Appapillai Amirthalingam,

leader of the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front, and colleague Vettivel Yogeswaran were shot dead by suspected Tamil militants at Amirthalingam's Colombo home last Thursday.

A third man shot dead in Colombo Sunday was identified as Uma Maheswaran, leader of another Tamil separatist group.

In Colombo, a Tamil guerrilla group holding peace talks with the government left the capital abruptly after the leaders of two rival groups were killed.

Anton Balasingham, theoretician and leader of a nine-member Tiger delegation, left Tuesday with his wife for London, a spokesman for the group said.

He said the eight other members of the delegation flew on Monday evening aboard a Sri Lankan airforce helicopter to their base in the north.

The Tigers have denied accusations they were involved in the killings.

The Tiger spokesman said his group had ended a second round of talks with the government two weeks ago and would return in about a fortnight to resume the discussions. There was no comment from Sri Lankan officials.

During the talks the Tigers had called for the withdrawal of the Indian troops, saying that peace could not be restored in the north and east as long as the troops remained.

Relations between Colombo and Delhi have plunged since President Ranasinghe Premadasa told India last month to recall the troops before the end of July.

India says the soldiers can be withdrawn only after the north-east is given autonomous powers and the security of Tamils is assured as required in the pact.

Mandela marks birthday with family lunch in jail

PAARL, South Africa (R) — Nelson Mandela, the world's best-known political prisoner, marked his 71st birthday Tuesday with a family get-together spanning two marriages and four generations.

But Mandela's wife Winnie said the reunion at his prison bungalow — the first for 26 years — would not be a party because he was still in jail.

"There is really nothing to celebrate," she told reporters as she arrived at the Victor Verster prison near Paarl, 60 kilometres northeast of Cape Town.

"Throughout the years we have regarded this as a day of prayer and fasting. We would rather we had our father with us at home like a normal family."

Mrs. Mandela said it was the first time that family members from Mandela's two marriages had ever come together. His first marriage to Evelyn Nomathamsanga broke up in acrimony and she has said she wanted nothing more to do with him.

On a cold and wet day, 16 visitors, all close relatives of Mandela, arrived in a small convoy at 10.50 a.m. for lunch with the veteran African National Congress (ANC) leader. The government limited the gathering to family only.

They included Mandela's great-grandson Thembi, descended from Mandela's first son who died in a car crash. Mandela's first wife was not present but her son and daughter, Makgatho and Maki, arrived with their five children.

Mandela's daughter Zindzi and grandchildren Gadi, five, and Zoleka, nine, were among guests from the other family branch.

Mrs. Mandela carried a garland of red flowers and a large hand-made birthday card signed by leaders of South Africa's National Union of Mineworkers. Others bore baskets of fruit and one child clutched a present wrapped in bright paper.

The group was transferred to a white prison minibus and car for the drive through prison grounds to Mandela's comfortable bungalow, where he was moved last year after recovering from tuberculosis caught in years of max-

imum-security imprisonment.

The visitors were to leave in mid-afternoon.

Asked whether she thought this could be Mandela's last birthday as a captive, Mrs. Mandela said: "The political climate is such that I have no reason to be optimistic."

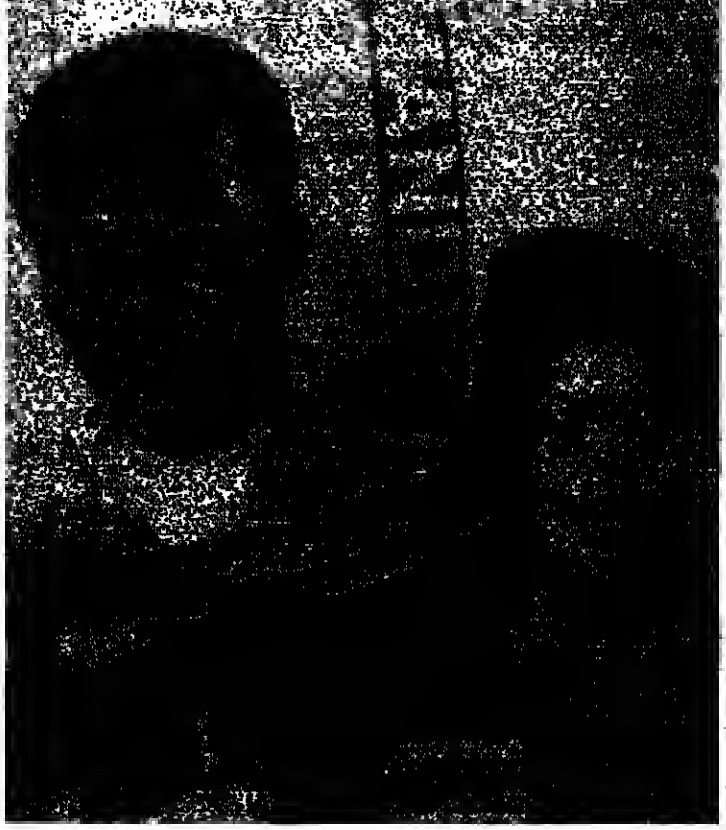
A meeting two weeks ago between Mandela and President P.W. Botha has fuelled speculation the jailed black nationalist could soon be released, possibly after a general election in September.

The terms of Mandela's imprisonment have been steadily relaxed in recent months. Last week six fellow prisoners including his mentor, Walter Sisulu,

were allowed to visit for lunch. The Lusaka-based ANC guerrilla group wished its jailed leader a happy 71st birthday and urged the white-led South African government to release him.

"We say happy birthday to him," spokesman Tom Sebina said in the Zambian capital. He added: "But the fact is, he is still a prisoner... obviously the best would have been to be able to say happy birthday to him outside prison, under normal conditions, in his own house, with his family and friends."

Sebina called on the government to release Mandela, declaring: "We hope that his 72nd birthday will be observed under different circumstances."



A delegate to a meeting of South African trade unions hold a poster demanding the release of Nelson Mandela

Missing guard and money may be in U.S.

LONDON (AP) — A security guard who disappeared after collecting nearly £1 million pounds (more than \$1 million) in cash may be in the United States, police said.

Scotland Yard, the London police headquarters, said it was investigating the possibility that Philip Cedric Wells, 46, had gone to the United States. He was reported to have a wife there, an American whose maiden name was Wanda Sherouse and who had been living in Jacksonville, Florida.

A Yard spokeswoman said

Wells' passport had not been found after a search of his belongings but she could not confirm press reports that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had been alerted to look out for him.

"We are looking at possible connections with the United States. We know Mr. Wells likes it there and he may want to make his way there," she said.

Police said Wells had an open round-trip ticket to the United States and may have flown there soon after he collected the money at London's Heathrow airport

Friday.

Press reports said Wells met his 26-year-old American wife while vacationing in Florida and that he introduced her to friends in England.

Wells worked for a small London security company, Chalmers Security System Ltd., and picked up £223,000 (\$1.48 million) from an incoming Portuguese aircraft at London's Heathrow international airport. He was scheduled to deliver the money to an air freight warehouse at the airport but he never showed up.

The money, belonging to the

Wojciech Jaruzelski to run for president

WARSAW (R) — Communist leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski rejoined the race for the Polish presidency Tuesday but said he was not certain of being elected.

He told Communist parliamentary deputies who will vote in the National Assembly election Wednesday that he would be a party candidate, the official news agency PAP said.

Polish radio also reported that Jaruzelski said he was unsure of winning and asked the deputies to endorse Interior Minister General Czeslaw Kiszczak as a second Communist candidate.

PAP said Jaruzelski told the closed caucus meeting he had decided to run because of a "sense of duty" and because new elements had emerged since he announced two weeks ago that he would not run.

Polish radio added that he asked the deputies to support Kiszczak — a move which would give the election the appearance of a two-man race.

"Training into consideration that he may not be elected by the National Assembly, he asked for support for the candidacy of General Czeslaw Kiszczak," the radio said.

Jaruzelski, 66, who currently heads Poland's collective state presidency, said June 30 he was withdrawing from the election because of his unpopularity for imposing martial law to suppress the Solidarity free trade union in 1981.

He proposed Kiszczak as the Communist Party candidate instead, but the offer was not accepted and the party has been pressing Jaruzelski hard to change his mind and run.

Army generals, other political groups and foreign leaders including Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush also pressed Jaruzelski to run.

Jaruzelski is widely considered the best man to take over the presidency, created under political reforms as a guarantee of national stability in a time of rapid political and economic liberalisation.

The 559-member National Assembly meets Wednesday to elect the president.

The Communists' 173 parliamentary deputies comprise only 31 per cent of the assembly but their traditional alliance with the small Peasant and Democratic parties and some Catholic deputies totals 300 votes — a 54 per cent majority.

"Walesa-Gorbachev meeting"

Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa may meet Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow before the end of this year, a senior Solidarity official was quoted as saying Tuesday.

Adam Michnik, Solidarity strategist and top adviser to Walesa, told the Moscow correspondent of the French daily Le Monde that talks with Soviet Communist Party officials and individuals gave him the impression a meeting was possible.

"After these conversations, I think that a rendezvous between the head of state (Gorbachev) and the president of Solidarity is possible, that it would be useful for the Soviet Union and Poland, and that it could take place this year," Michnik was quoted as saying.

Asked if he meant a meeting before Christmas, Michnik replied: "Christmas is this year."

Thomas Cook Travel Agency, was mostly in used Portuguese escudos, packed in nine shoe box-sized packages in gray canvas sacks.

Wells' van was found three kilometres from the airport Sunday. Inside was about £5,000 (\$8,000) in British cash, in pay packets Wells was supposed to deliver to his colleagues.

His own pay packet of £200 (\$322) was missing, which led police to speculate he might have been abducted after picking it out.

COLUMN

Buzz who? Quayle gets mixed up

NASHVILLE (R) — U.S. Vice-President Dan Quayle caused quite a buzz at the Young Republicans national convention here Saturday when he got a hero astronaut mixed up with a disgraced congressman. He told delegates at the convention that Americans would soon observe the 20th anniversary of "Neil Armstrong and Buzz Larkens' walk on the moon."

Quayle was referring to the first moon landing and really meant to refer to astronaut Buzz Aldrin. Donald E. (Buzz) Larkens is a 58-year-old Republican congressman who was recently sentenced to 30 days in jail for contributing to the unruliness of a minor after being convicted of having sex with a 16-year-old girl. There was no one immediately available to explain the vice-president's gaff.

Nixon to tell it all

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Richard Nixon says his autobiography due next spring will be the most personal book he has ever written and will describe in detail his experiences in resigning the presidency. Simon and Schuster, the publisher, would not disclose terms of the contract, but said it plans a first printing of at least 200,000 and a major marketing campaign. It will contain accounts of Nixon's meetings with world leaders and advice about running for office, winning and governing. It also will discuss the drug crisis and education, the publisher said. "The book contains reflections and conclusions based on my entire life, from private, political, foreign policy and philosophical standpoints," the 76-year-old Nixon said in a statement. He has pledged his income from the book to the Nixon Library and Birthplace, scheduled to open next year at Yorba Linda, California.

Press told to dress better

BANGKOK (AP) — Reporters attending press briefings at Thailand's government house have been told to dress better or stay away. Jeans-clad journalists will no longer be welcome in Bangkok's main government office, deputy government spokesman Likit Hongladarom said. Shirt and tie or a smart safari suit are now mandatory for all those attending official press conferences, despite Bangkok's stifling average daytime temperature of around 33 degrees Centigrade (91 degrees Fahrenheit), he said. The order to dress better was issued by General Kamol Dabbarms, personal assistant to Thailand's Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, Likit said. But some reporters chasing the latest hot news story complain that briefings at government house can be intolerably sweaty affairs as the lofty, more than 100-year-old building lacks an efficient air conditioning system.

'Presley did not know how to dance'

NEW YORK (AP) — Elvis Presley wore blue suede shoes to his high school prom, but he and his date did not dance, "Elvis told me he didn't know how to dance," said Regis Wilson Vaughn, the future king's date at the 1953 prom at L.C. Humes high school in Memphis, Tennessee. "So we sat and talked and drank sodas all night," Elvis, then an 18-year-old senior and still a few years from Pelvis-swinging stardom, lived in the same housing project as Vaughn, then 14. The date for about four months. Now 50, Vaughn is married and lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Global weather (major world cities)

| | MIN. | MAX. | Weather |
|--------------|------|------|-----------|
| AMSTERDAM | 15 | 20 | Cloudy |
| ATHENS | 25 | 32 | Sunny |
| BAHRAIN | 30 | 38 | Sunny |
| BANGKOK | 26 | 34 | Clear |
| Buenos Aires | 12 | 22 | 71 Clear |
| CAIRO | 24 | 30 | 85 Clear |
| CHICAGO | 15 | 22 | 59 Fair |
| COPENHAGEN | 11 | 19 | 52 Cloudy |
| FRANKFURT | 15 | 22 | 59 Cloudy |
| GENEVA | 12 | 20 | 54 Clear |
| HONG KONG | 22 | 27 | 81 Clear |
| ISTANBUL | 18 | 27 | 81 Clear |
| LONDON | 12 | 21 | 54 Cloudy |
| LOS ANGELES | 16 | 25 | 68 Clear |
| MADRID | 20 | 28 | 68 Clear |
| MECCA | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MONTREAL | 14 | 27 | 57 Cloudy |
| MOSCOW | 12 | 24 | 73 Cloudy |
| NEW DELHI | 27 | 31 | 81 Clear |
| NEW YORK | 16 | 24 | 78 Cloudy |
| PARIS | 17 | 27 | 81 Clear |
| ROME | 22 | 31 | 88 Clear |
| SYDNEY | 27 | 31 | 88 Clear |
| TOKYO | 21 | 26 | 79 Cloudy |
| VIENNA | 15 | 22 | 72 Cloudy |

N/A indicates missing information.

